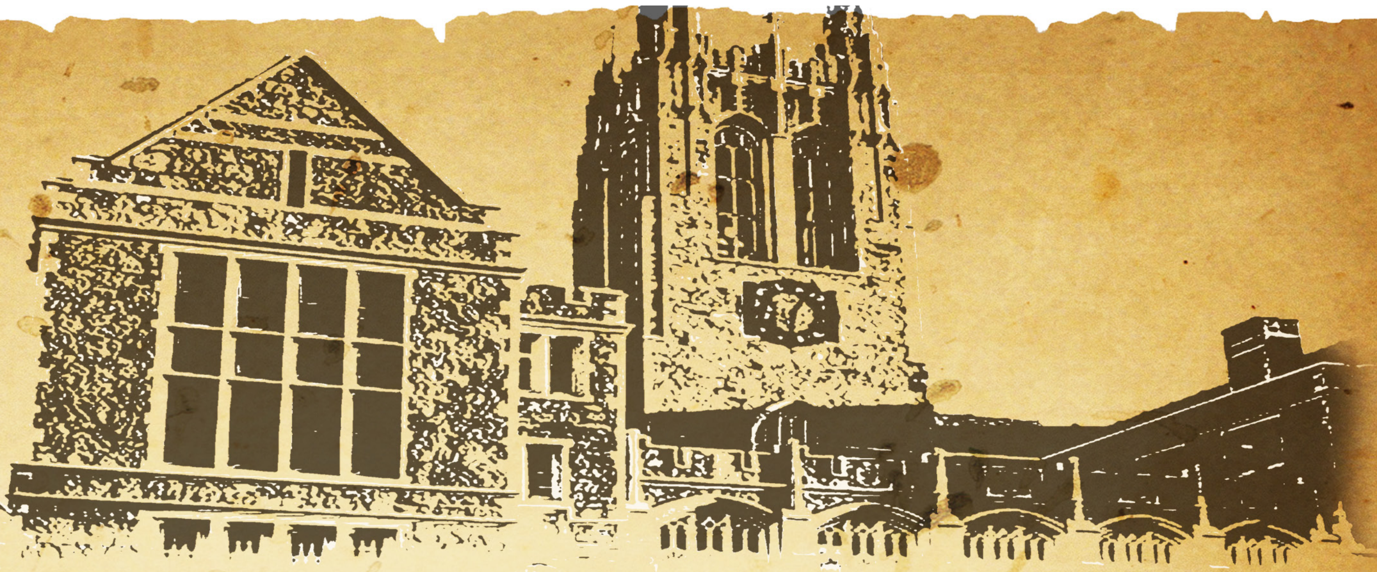
S
The Shakerite



AUCTION

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE WILL GO TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER

Bank balances may trump SAT scores.

PAGES 8-9

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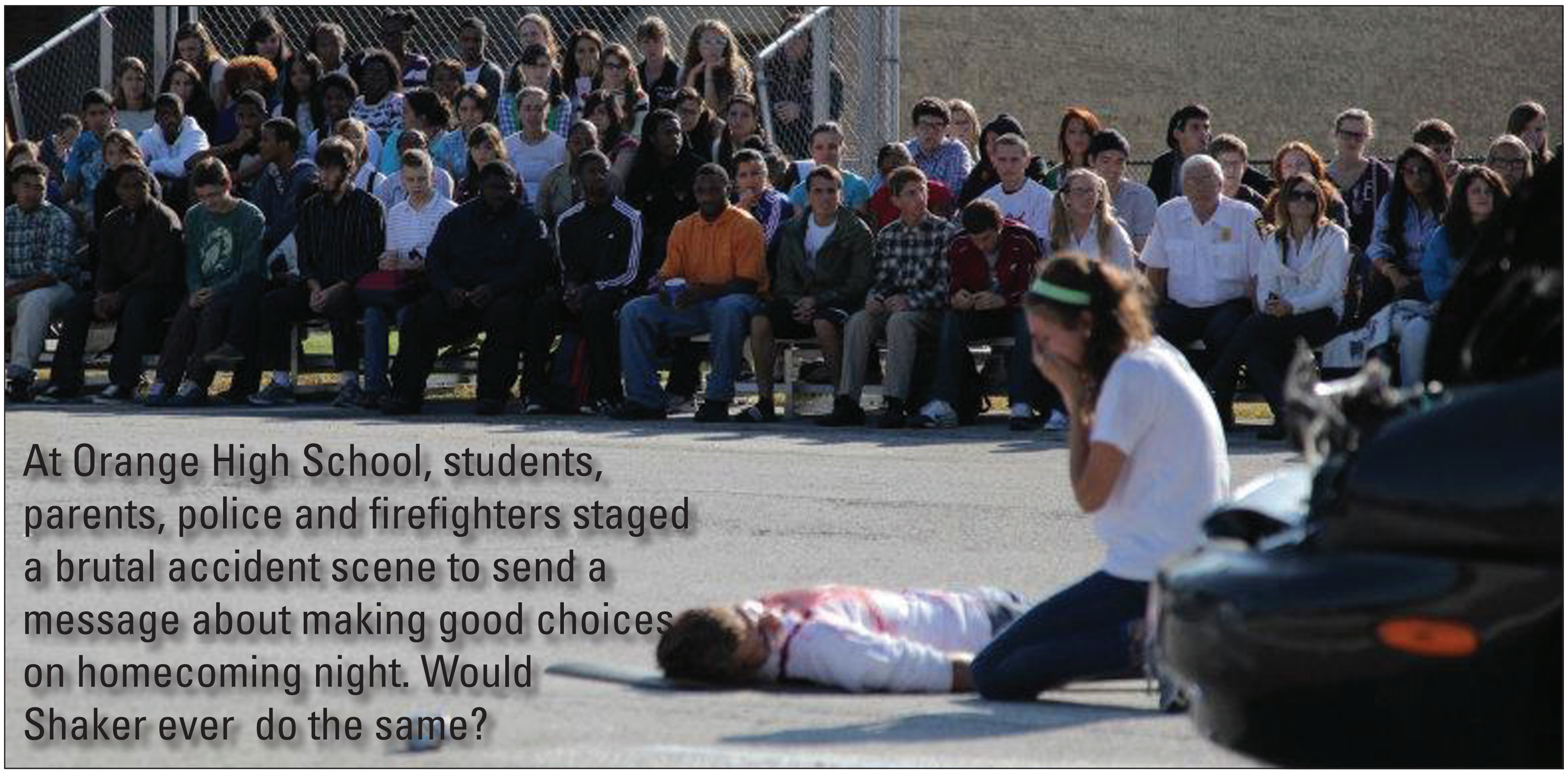
Shaker is going wireless

The rumors are true. The district is, in fact, installing Wi-Fi in all Shaker schools, and the high school will be first. Principal Michael Griffith explained that the process has been lengthy, but if all goes as planned, the high school should have Wi-Fi by mid-year.

> "It's a colossal waste of time. We need to find another way to make the message stick."
> Principal Michael Grffith

A DRAMATIC EFFORT FOR SAFETY



At Orange High School, students, parents, police and firefighters staged a brutal accident scene to send a message about making good choices on homecoming night. Would Shaker ever do the same?

PARKER MAIMBOURG

AT A CRASH simulation held at Orange High School, senior Ally Zabell kneels over senior Evan Wahl before he is pronounced "dead." According to the narrative of the dramatization, Wahl was killed when he pushed Zabell out of the way of a speeding car driven by a drunk teenager. Juniors, seniors, faculty and staff watched the simulation, which took place two days before the Orange homecoming dance. The event aimed to educate students about the effects of poor decision-making and drunk driving. No drunk driving incidents occurred at the Orange homecoming. According to Zabell,"People are still talking about the crash today, saying how it seemed so real and plausible."

BY ALLIE HARRIS
CAMPUS AND CITY EDITOR

Orange High School students attended an assembly Sept. 22 that participants hope will save lives, but Shaker students aren't likely to see a similar event any time soon.

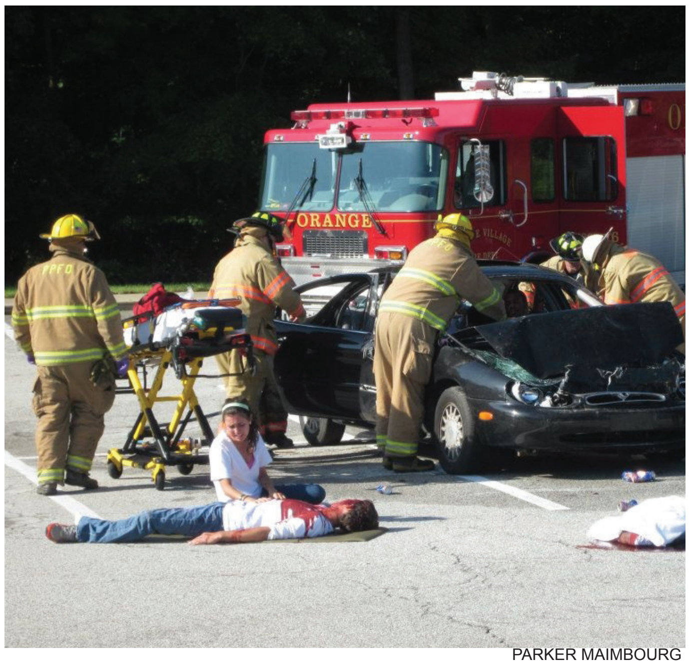
Orange High School recently staged a car crash simulation assembly to educate students about the effects of drunk driving. The assembly, which was for juniors and seniors, was held two days before Orange homecoming in an attempt to influence students' decisions after the dance.

Members of the Orange High School club Student's Against Destructive Decisions organized the simulation with the help of the school nurse and the school police officer. In the high school parking lot, the students staged a scene depicting the aftermath of a severe automotive crash. The simulation portrayed characters who attended a party where underage drinking occurred.

Two characters, played by seniors Ally Zabell and Evan Wahl, had not been drinking and decided to leave the party on foot when they heard that police may arrive. When the police showed up, four other characters left in car even though the driver had been drinking. The car sped toward Zabell and Wahl, who were walking down the street. Just before impact, Wahl pushed Zabell out of the way, saving her life. Wahl and two other characters in the speeding car were killed; another character's injuries left him on life-support. The 18-year-old boy who portrayed the driver was arrested.

Zabell, the only character fully conscious at the scene, called 911 to report the accident. She watched as the police and fire department came and confirmed her friend's death.

The narrators detailed the aftermath of the fictional crash, talking about how the deaths affected the community. Zabell felt guilty because Wahl saved her life. The driver's life was ruined; the school's star basketball player, he couldn't play anymore and could not get into college.



PARKER MAIMBOURG

MEMBERS OF THE Orange Fire Department work to free an "injured" actor from the wreckage during the simulation at Orange High School. The police and fire departments responded as if the drill were a real emergency, calling for an emergency medical helicopter to airlift "injured" students to a hospital.

The parents of two of the students who portrayed characters came to enhance the plausibility of the scenario. "The parents were crying, I was crying and the officers took it very seriously even though it was just a drill," Zabell stated in a Facebook interview. She thinks it was the first assembly in which everyone was really quiet and respectful.

"I think it worked," Wahl stated. "The students who viewed it said it was emotionally intense and disturbing at times. . . Many students said it moved them and discouraged drinking because of the detrimental effects that they were able to witness first-hand."

Events such as the Orange High School dramatization are not unusual at American high schools. For decades, organizations hoping to curb drunk driving among students have placed contorted cars on the front lawns of high schools as sobering reminders of potential consequences. No such display has ever happened at Shaker.

Principal Michael Griffith does not think a similar effort would benefit Shaker students. "It's a colossal waste of time," he said. Throughout his career, Griffith has seen many similar simulations conducted, but he doesn't think that these events change students' minds when they are making decisions. He said no scientific evidence exists to prove that they do.

"Even when there have been actual events, students talk about it for a couple weeks, but then it's forgotten," he said, "We need to figure out another way to make the message stick."

However, Tom Flynn, Owner of Behind the Wheel driving school, believes that seeing the consequences of bad decisions is worthwhile. He uses videos to teach his students about the dangers of poor decision-making. "Anytime that a credible video is shown of an accident and the result of the accident, I think it is helpful," he said.

A FEW WEEKS IN, FIGHTING BEGINS

BY JULIA SCHARFSTEIN
CAMPUS AND CITY EDITOR

Kids who participate in fights need to think about the consequences of their actions before engaging in physical or verbal altercations. In the high school, the immediate satisfaction and exhilaration may not be worth those consequences.

Principal Michael Griffith explained the order of actions taken after an incident occurs. "First and foremost, we address the safety issues," Griffith said. After the protection of each of the individuals involved is ensured, and injuries are dealt with, investigation follows and stiff action is taken.

The ramifications for students vary depending on specific factors, Griffith explained. If both parties were equally involved, the result is normally a 10-day suspension. Beyond that, the consequences change with the most extreme punishment being expulsion.

Shaker Heights Police Chief Scott Lee said that cases from the high school are handled in the same way that any other criminal incident would be handled; if it's a juvenile and charges need to be levied, charges are levied; if there's an adult involved they will be charged in the same way as any other case.

Freshman Madeline Hertz expressed her concern with arresting students that participate in fights. "I don't think they should be arrested because sometimes people just snap and have a hard time controlling themselves," she said.

"I definitely think fights are a distraction in school and I think the bully should be punished but getting arrested is a little over the top," sophomore Morgan Kiener said.

Griffith talked about the reason for the large number of altercations that have occurred early in this school year.

"A fair percentage of incidents involved students who have not been a part of Shaker," Griffith said. Griffith went on to explain that these students are still learning how to adapt to the Shaker community and understand its values. Griffith also emphasizes that not all the information is seen. "It is "bigger than the incident we saw," Griffith said.

"A number of young people have personal issues," Griffith explained, also factors into fights. Shaker has "work to do to help those kids."

A day of conflicts

On Sept. 12, a large group of students were playing Frisbee on the front lawn when a student not participating was hit by the disc.

That student became angry, picked up the Frisbee thrower and dropped him on the ground.

The boy was taken inside to Nurse Paula Damm, and she decided to send him to the emergency room. The boy's parents arrived, and paramedics put him on a backboard, a safety precaution for a back injury.

The student was taken to Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, where he was X-rayed and doctors diagnosed a compression fracture in the lower back.

The injured boy is mostly back to normal now, but he is not allowed to engage in intense physical activity.

On the same date as the Frisbee incident, a student suffered a broken nose during a tenth-period fight.

According to Assistant Principal Frank Wessinger, the conflict began in a third-floor classroom, where the students insulted each other. The teacher intervened, and the argument temporarily ended, but as the dismissal bell rang, one of the boys left quickly and waited for the other in the hallway.

After a verbal exchange, the student who was waiting in the hall repeatedly struck the other. That student's nose bled, and he quickly retreated down the stairs.

The child was transferred to the hospital, and communication from the injured student's parents confirmed that the boy had a broken nose.

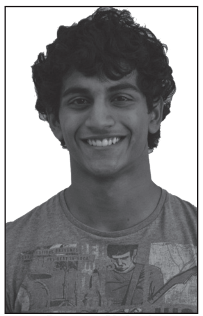
Compiled by Julia Scharfsteina and Allie Harris

GOV STUDENTS ENCOUNTER RESISTANCE TO SB 5

BY SARAH-JANE LORENZO
CAMPUS AND CITY EDITOR

Some Shaker students earning their community service hours by canvassing for We Are Ohio, an organization dedicated to repealing Senate Bill 5, haven't been greeted warmly.

Senate Bill 5, which was approved for a referendum vote this summer, will appear on the Nov. 8 ballot as Issue 2. This bill limits collective bargaining rights and enforces merit-based salaries for all public employees. It has met strong opposition among teachers, police officers and firefighters.


Reyyan Najeeb

Senior Reyyan Najeeb, along with many other AP Government students, canvassed for We Are Ohio. This campaign to repeal Senate Bill 5 encourages Shaker residents to vote "no" on Issue 2.

Najeeb found that door-to-door canvassing was exhausting, and that "people were just mean." He said that telephone polling was overall a more positive experience but found himself in the midst of an argument with one man who answered his call.

Another student volunteer, senior Latrice Burks, canvassed against Issue 2 and had a similar experience. "I've had rude people hang up on me when I made [phone calls]," Burks said. "That being said, those few people still can't get in the way of those who want to make a difference."

Many in opposition of the bill claim that the ballot language is confusing, as it appears to be asking voters to say "yes" if they want the bill to be killed.

The Ohio Ballot Board voted 5-0 for a "no" vote on Issue 2 to express disapproval of Senate Bill 5, and a "yes" vote to express acceptance of Senate Bill 5.

We Are Ohio's office is located at 13209 Shaker Square in Cleveland.

Latrice Burks

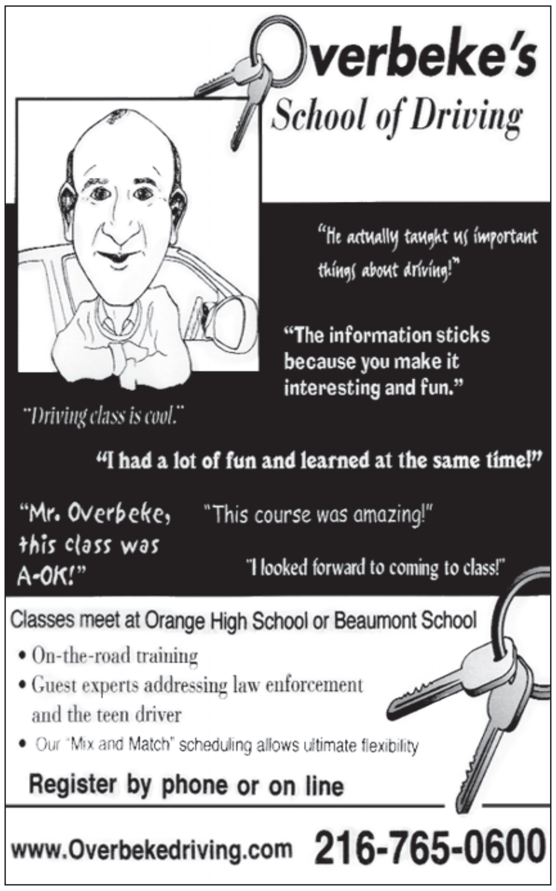
The Shakerite is going online!

Anxious for more news? shakerite.com will be updated regularly with stories that run in the paper as well as stories unique to the website. Be on the lookout for a formal announcement when the website is up and running!

Shaker Heights Teachers' Association

SHTA

Professionals Dedicated To Educating Shaker's Youth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"Driving class is cool."

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"Mr. Overbeke, this class was A-OK!"

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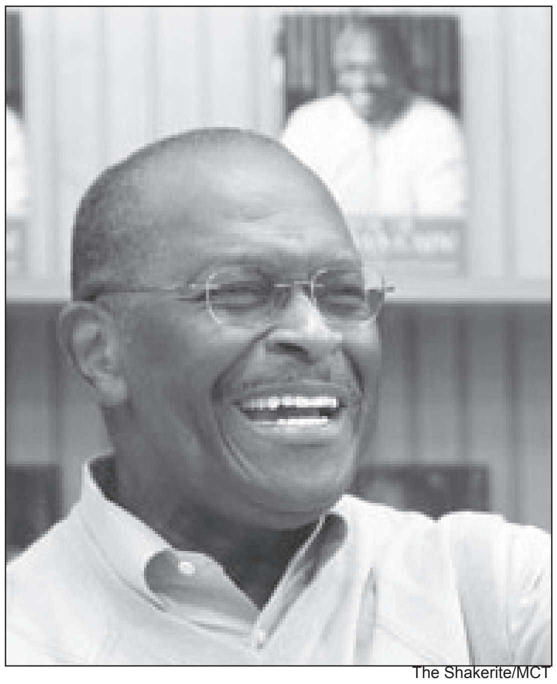


The Shakerite/MCT

REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE Herman Cain won the Florida straw poll Sept. 24

6 things to know in the news

1 Herman Cain, former president of Godfather's Pizza, has announced his bid in the 2012 election to become president of the United States. Cain's campaign gained attention after he won the Sept. 24 Florida straw poll, placing ahead of Texas Gov. Rick Perry and former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney. Cain is promoting a new tax plan he calls 9-9-9: a 9 percent individual, 9 percent corporate and 9 percent national sales tax. "I think he has a very good chance," said junior Nicholas Chmielewski. "He's the only true conservative with a message and he's very articulate. All of the other candidates have something that alienates them from the Republican base."

2 After complaints that its policy banning photography was too severe, a British shopping mall has abandoned the policy. A father photographing his young daughter at Glasgow's Braehead Shopping Centre was told to stop by security officers who were enforcing the ban. An Internet campaign asked that the mall create new rules allowing picture taking. Twenty thousand people have joined the Facebook group "Boycott Braehead" protesting this policy. Though the shopping center now permits photography, security can question anyone acting suspicious. The policy was originally enacted to protect the privacy of mall visitors and to prevent the possibility of terrorists photographing the facility in order to plan an attack.

3 Apple co-founder and CEO Steve Jobs died in his California home Oct. 5 at the age of 56 after a seven-year battle with pancreatic cancer. Jobs resigned as CEO of Apple in August, leaving his position to Tim Cook, who was previously Apple's chief operating officer. After dropping out of college, Jobs formed the Apple computer company in his parents' garage and eventually oversaw the creation of the Macintosh computer, the iPhone, iPod and iPad. "To see such an inspirational figure work for what he loved through sickness and still impact the world was an amazing feat," said Apple aficionado Josh Schultheiss, a junior.

4 Five years after the capture of Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit, Israel has agreed to release 1,027 Palestinian prisoners in exchange for his freedom. Shalit, who was the first Israeli soldier to be captured by Palestine since 1994, became an idol for Israel as protests took place urging the government to work harder in pursuing negotiations for Shalit's release.

COMPILED BY SARAH-JANE LORENZO, NATASHA ANDERSON, AND DAVID SHAKNO

OCCUPY WALL STREET PROTESTS SPREAD ACROSS THE COUNTRY

5 What began as a small group of college students "occupying" Wall Street has become a nation-wide protest calling on politicians to reform the economic system that has led to a world-wide crisis.

The protesters refer to themselves as "the other 99 percent," suggesting that one percent of the population is responsible for American economic problems.

Demonstrations began Sept. 17, Constitution Day, and are steadily gaining recognition and support.

The protest employs the same organizational methods that have been used to orchestrate rallies and revolutions of the Arab spring: contacting people through social networking sites.

Protests have spread quickly across the country, and Cleveland has issued a permit for demonstrations of the group Occupy Cleveland until Oct. 17.

Regardless of where the protests take place, the protesters all have the same goal in mind: economic reform.

COMPILED BY SHANE MCKEON

OCCUPY EVERYTHING
TAX THE RICH

The Shakerite/ MCT

OCCUPY WALL STREET protesters link arms as the march through the streets of New York City.

The Shakerite/MCT

MARIE DANIEL AND her son, Noshi, stand together after the death of her son Mina, who was killed during the Oct. 10 riots.

Coptic Christians riot

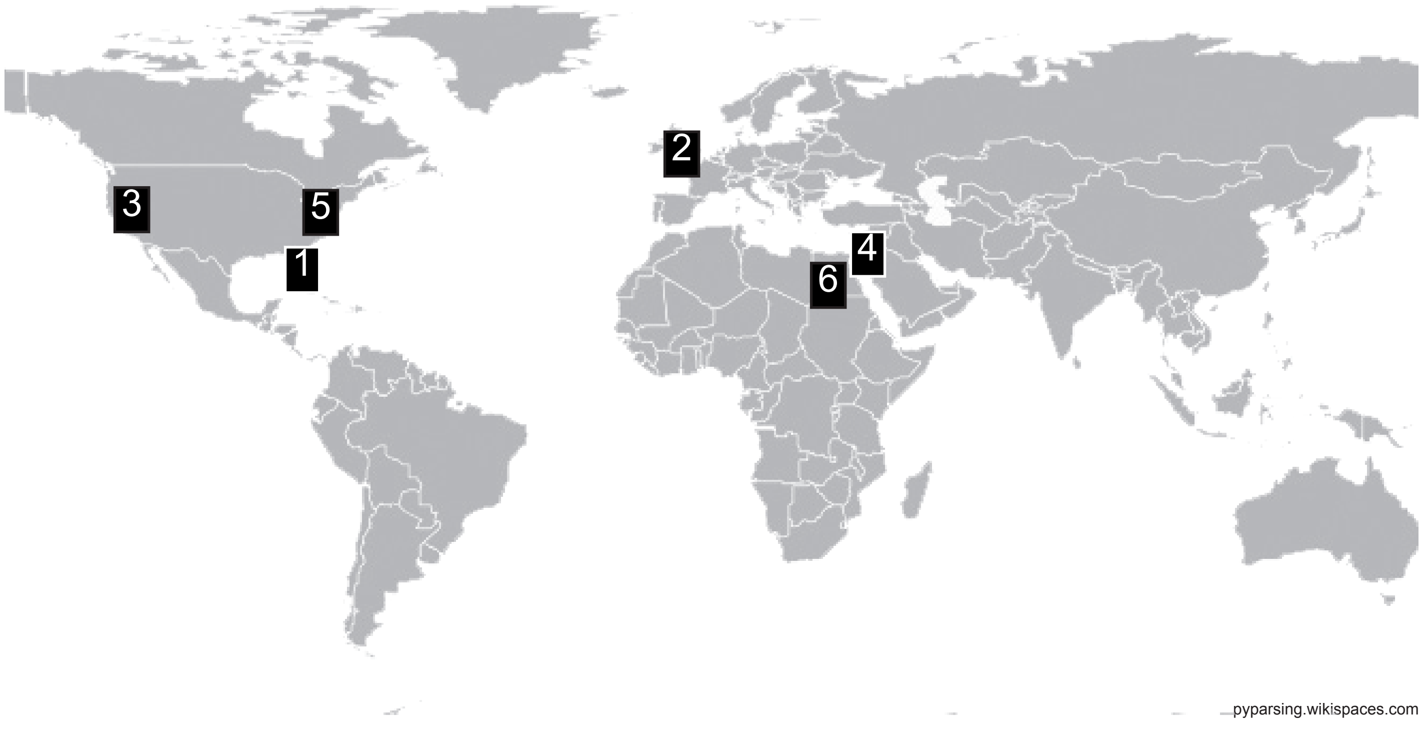
6 Rioting in Cairo, Egypt caused clashes to erupt in the downtown area on Sunday Oct 9. Christians made up most of the protestors, who were angry about a recent church attack and blame the country's ruling military for the lenience regarding the attacks by the ultraconservative Islamists.

The Christians claim that their protest started peacefully, but when they were attacked by thugs who threw stones at them, it started to become more violent. When a security van drove into the crowd, the protesters began setting military vehicles on fire. Flames rose high into the night.

At least 25 people were killed in the violence and more than 329 were injured. Eventually, the military fired tear gas at the protesters to make them leave. They also closed off many streets in the area.

The riots created a scene, causing people to gather on the bridge over the Nile to watch. The violence also left the streets dirty with ash, glass and stones.

COMPILED BY IZZI NEJEDLIK



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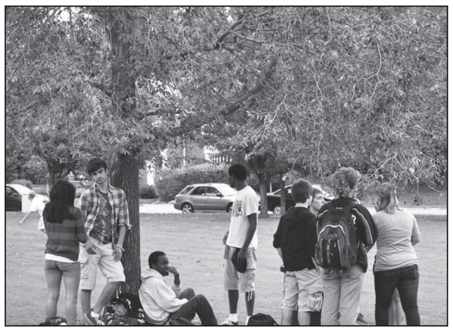


No place to go and work to do

Students who to stay at school after 4 p.m. are out of luck if they want to do homework. Classrooms and the library close at 4 p.m., leaving us no choice but to study in stairwells and hallways, where those who roam the school are disruptive. Keeping the library or other rooms open later would give students who want to a place to work.

Browns game not worth the screening

Seconds ticked by as I waited in a line for a never-ending 30 minutes just to enter the Browns stadium for the Browns vs. Titans game Oct. 2.

I hadn't been to a Browns game in a few years, and I was appalled by how long it took just to enter the stadium, let alone get to my seat. Before entering, every fan was forced to go through a security checkpoint.

As a football fanatic, I have attended my fair share of football games and I am familiar with the idea of a security checkpoint at a stadium entrance, but this was ridiculous.

First of all, there were separate lines for men and women. I was in a group in which both males and female were present.

Samantha Weisner

Once the men went through security, they tried waiting for the women who came to the game with them.

However, security guards forced them to keep moving, separating groups of people. Luckily everyone in the group that I came with aws familiar with the stadium, but being split up was not ideal.

Separate security lines for men and women weren't a major problem for me, but they easily could have inconvenienced others.

And, like the line for the restroom, the men's line went much faster. Each man was subject to a quick pat down and was asked to remove his hat.

The women's line took what seemed like hours. Any bag in a woman's possession was opened and thoroughly searched.

I was patted down with my coat zipped, and was then forced to open my coat for an even more thorough pat down.

I was forced to have my legs scanned by a hand-held scanner. The pat down became very invasive and uncomfortable.

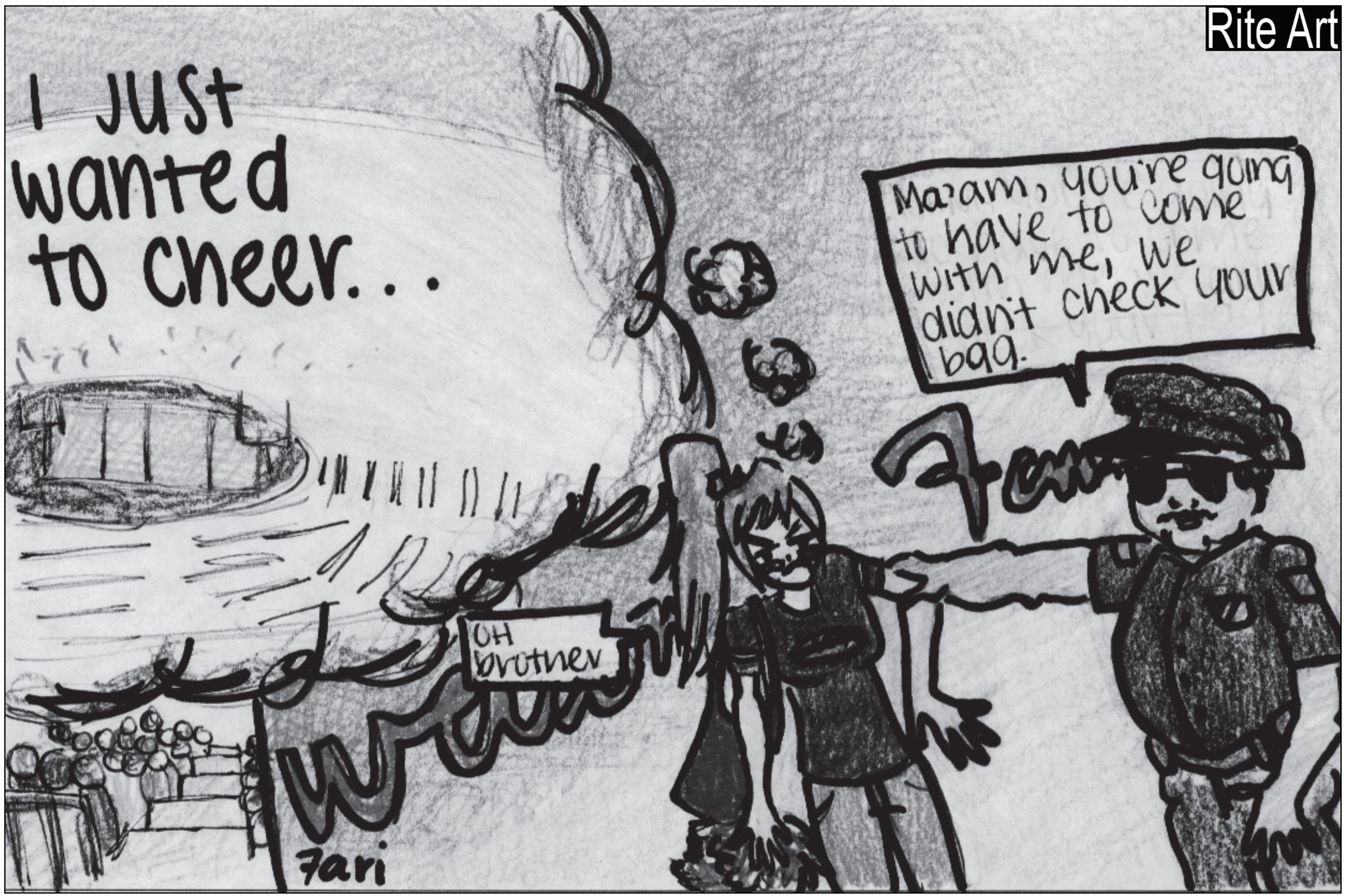
What do Browns security personnel believe that women are hiding? Why would men not be subject to such an intense security screening?

In some ways I can understand where the suspicion would come from. I can even understand forcing fans to throw away water bottles and outside food, even checking through women's' purses, but what do they actually think I am hiding in my tightly knit hat?

Other women in line experienced outrage. It wasn't fair that women were targeted more than men by being subject to such thorough security checks.

Although I love football, I am not going to attend Browns games as often anymore. If I am going to have to spend a colossal amount of time going through an overly thorough security checkpoint, it's just not worth it.

Rite Art


I just wanted to cheer...
Ma'am, you're going to have to come with me, we didn't check your bag.
OH brother
Fari

Fari Bustamante•The Shakerite

VOTE CLAWSON, ROBERTSON FOR SHAKER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Voters will elect two members of the Board of Education this November. The Editorial Board interviewed all three candidates; each possesses plenty of qualifications. The Shakerite endorses Bill Clawson and Peter Robertson.

Clawson has lived in Shaker for 10 years, and he knows the community fairly well. When asked how he thought the amount of time he had lived in Shaker would affect his chances of being elected, Clawson replied that he knows the community, but doesn't know it well enough that he can't see other ways of doing things.

Clawson said that although he is not on the Board of Education currently, he has been going to meetings regularly for the past few years. He has a background in consulting and is a Parent Teacher Organization member. His goals, if elected, are to make the transitions between leaders easier, extend levy cycles and help deliver the strategic plan.

Clawson fully endorses the IB program. He feels that the program will help to carve out another level of distinctiveness at Shaker, and broaden the high school experience. Clawson believes that the IB program will benefit Shaker students in regards to their future careers. Clawson said that he thinks IB will pull everyone forward, and that it will help all students succeed.

When asked about the issue of poor athletic facilities, Clawson said that Shaker is in a very tough spot for funding. Shaker has lost approximately $4 million a year from the state. But Clawson understands that good facilities are important, not only to members of the community, but to the safety of students. Clawson said that is not the Shaker way to have "less than." Clawson hopes to reach out to alumni, members of the community, and corporations for money, but understands that the idea of turf fields and a new track is very challenging with Shaker's current budget.

Clawson believes that as a community, it is important to talk about things that make Shaker unique, and make sure that Shaker is able to keep those things.

Peter Robertson is running for re-election. Robertson spent four years on the Citizens Committee Search Board looking for potential candidates. The committee told Robertson that he should resign so that he could run for a position on the Board of Education. Robertson is running for his second term, but if elected, will not run for a third.

"Education has been what I devoted my career to," said Robertson.

Robertson's goals, if re-elected, are to be thoughtful about spending money, work on a succession plan, and to keep up with technology.

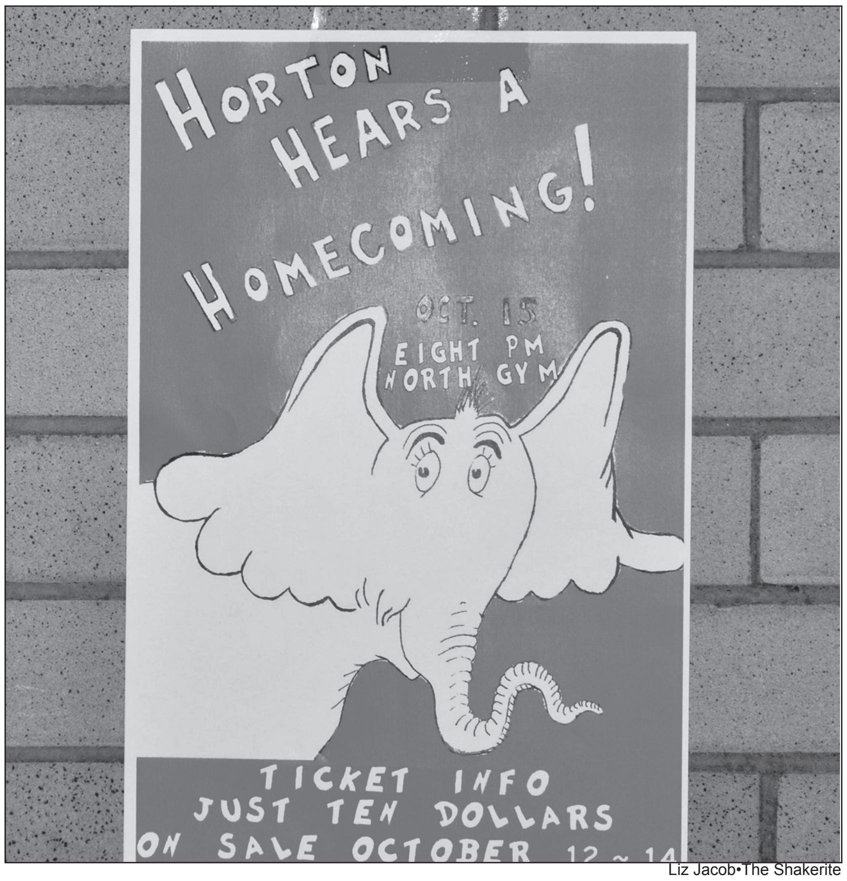
Robertson supports IB through the lower schools. When asked about the money being spent for IB, Robertson said that the money spent on IB would be spent on professional development anyway. Although there are still a few things that need to be worked out with the IB program, Robertson believes that a few years down the line Shaker will have IB all figured out. Not only does Robertson believe that IB is good for students, but also good for teachers. He thinks that the IB program challenges them and helps them progress.

'rite idea

Concerning to the poor athletic facilities, Robertson recognized that this has been an issue for some time, but the record amount of rain this year made the situation much worse. Robertson said that the big issue is money. There isn't a lot of funding available, and the community doesn't want more levies.

Shaker Heights is in need of good leaders who are actively involved and have plans to maintain the unique community that is Shaker. We believe that these two candidates are the best for the job. Both candidates are very educated and have many prior experiences that would help them fill their roles on the Board of Education if elected. They are both dedicated to helping make Shaker the best community possible. Vote for Bill Clawson and Peter Robinson for board of education Nov. 2.

HOMECOMING THEME BLUES



Liz Jacob•The Shakerite

HOMECOMING POSTERS HANGING around school emphasized the "Horton hears a homecoming" theme. While some students were excited to see how the Seussean theme would be implemented, others, for some reason, were more concerned about what to wear.

Criticism Student Council endured for choosing a Dr. Seuss Homecoming theme is misguided -- themes are meant to inspire parade floats, not fashion statements

SAMANTHA WEISNER
OPINION EDITOR

"Thing 1 is going and so is Thing 2. If both the Things are going than you should, too."

The Senior Council chose "Horton Hears a Homecoming" as this year's homecoming theme. Council is dealing with more criticism of the homecoming theme than usual, with students complaining that they don't know what to wear to the dance.

What people don't seem to understand is that the theme is meant to inspire floats for the parade, not fashions for the dance.

The homecoming theme is chosen to unify the parade. "I think the theme is easy to incorporate into floats because it is any easy theme to do a lot of creative things with," said Student Body President Michaela Matthews.

In past years, very few people have dressed for the dance according to the theme. So why are students suddenly thinking that they *must* dress like a Dr. Seuss character?

Last year's theme, "Bollywood," didn't inspire students to wear Indian clothing to the dance, and no one was stressing over how to incorporate the theme into their outfit.

This year, nobody is actually stressed over how to create a Dr. Seuss ensemble, and everyone knows that no one is going to put on a red and white striped hat along with their typical homecoming dress.

Students simply don't like the theme.

I've heard several complaints saying that the theme is stupid and childish. But really, does the theme make or break homecoming? I highly doubt any single person will have a better or worse time because of the homecoming theme.

Homecoming will be as fun as you make it, and if you want what many say is a "bad theme," to ruin your night, that's your fault, not Student Council's.

Although not everyone loves the homecoming theme, having a theme makes each homecoming unique. It enables club presidents to more easily organize their club floats for the parade. And a theme such as "Horton Hears a Homecoming" invites creative parade entries.

Matthews believes that having a theme makes homecoming better. "Homecoming themes are nice to have for the parade and the spirit day on Friday. It gets people excited," Matthews stated.

If you don't like the theme, you don't have to follow it. It's not meant for the dance. As one officer put it during the junior class town hall meeting, "There are no restrictions where you have to dress up like Cindy Lou Who." So what if "Horton Hears a Homecoming" isn't your personal favorite homecoming theme? If you want to have a successful homecoming, thank Student Council and stop complaining.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Current State of Shaker's Bubble: A Disgrace of Embrace

To the Editor:

This year's first Shakerite rekindled last year's fiery emotions surrounding the IB Program/me with its feature on the new mural and learner profile posters. However, I hope that we can soon look past these physical manifestations and numbers--the budget, the GPA weighting, the demographics, and evaluate the intangibles--the ethics and desires to embrace a world outside of suburbia. I do not believe that IB is right for every student, but perhaps the program is not an international conspiracy theory to inundate Americans and stir chaos among Shaker students. As Shaker advances its mission to educate and nurture citizens of the world, I hope that the competitiveness, contempt and jadedness between students can be checked and left behind.

Shaker students pride themselves on the alleged "Shaker Bubble," the diverse and accepting atmosphere. From this, I would not have expected such a prolonged attitude adjustment toward IB. I constantly hear peers discuss aspirations to study abroad, international relations, or go to a college that fosters community through seminar and discussion, but when IB enters, students prefer to mock Theory of Knowledge's Socratic Seminars for its evaluation of "ways of knowing (wok)." One "wok" is "perspective," something that our "Bubble" should seemingly embrace.

President Abraham Lincoln said, "A House divided against itself cannot stand." As Mr. Hutchinson stresses during meetings and announcements, "Here in the 'Big House,' we are one 'Raider nation.'" If we are truly "One Raider nation," then I am optimistic that a more welcoming attitude is on the way. I certainly look forward to rebuilding this shattered house together-- if not for me, IB's integrity, AP's esteem, the administration or a sense of community--at least for good ole' Abe.

Jonah Weinstein, senior

Fixing material may fix the problems

To the editor:

I was dismayed after reading the Shakerite article, "Watch Out! Teachers Can Now Control Your PC Screen." According to the article, the purpose of implementing the Vision 7 software is to make it easier for teachers to force students to pay attention to the class material.

Frankly, there is little problem of students not being able to hear a teacher's voice while in a computer lab. The problem is that some of the material is just not engaging enough that students see the relevance in listening; a problem a new microphone or a frozen computer screen can't fix. The distraction of the World Wide Web sitting in front of students is only one potential cause of lack of class participation.

Students can always revert to other common classroom activities such as texting, completing another class's homework assignment or conversing with a friend that is probably sitting right next to them.

The solution: make classroom material more engaging. If teachers made the effort to avoid the iconic "fill in the blank" power points or teaching how to conduct research for a third time, students might be more interested in paying attention.

Some teachers have caught on. With fun biology music videos and shooting ball bearings across the room for physics, some of the science teachers understand what can engage students and is educational at the same time.

Nathan Immerman, senior

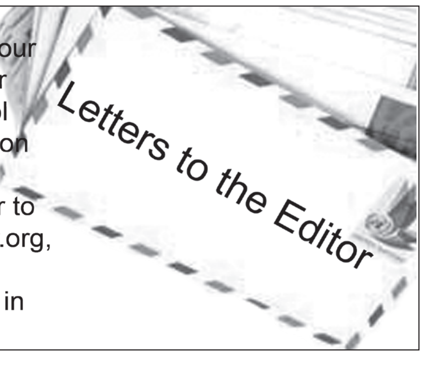
Student Council gets their say

To the Editor:

On behalf of Student Council, I would like to respond to your article, "Increased involvement between council and classes."[Sept. 26] As president of Student Council, I was offended by the unnecessary remark stated in the last paragraph of the article regarding the effectiveness of Student Council. The article written discussed the newly created town hall meetings, not the effectiveness of Student Council. I believe that the quote portrayed Student Council in a negative light. Whether or not it was directed toward a specific class or Student Council as a whole, it was one-sided and unsupported by facts. The reason I'm responding to this article is because I believe The Shakerite could learn from this situation. Giving Student Council a monthly column, written by myself and the co-heads of communications, would help inform the student body about the happenings in the club of all clubs, as opposed to claims from non-Student Council members.

Michaela Matthews
Student body president

We want to print your thoughts about our coverage, a school policy or anything on your mind. E-mail letters to the editor to shakerite@shaker.org, or put them in the Shakerite mailbox in the Main Office.



TOWN HALLS MEET MIXED REACTION

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS Claire Crosby, Alé Bliss, Stormy Salett and Kyndra Rush sat onstage during the Oct. 4 junior class town hall meeting in the Large Auditorium. At the start of the meeting, junior class president Parker Smith said, “We are the class of tomorrow and we have to start by making the right choices today.” However, the meeting dragged on for council members with little to do, as the juniors made some poor choices with their questions, such as “Will there be pregaming before Homecoming.” Still, the junior class student council is the strongest Student Council in the building. They have raised a significant amount of money for their senior prom in addition to coming up with the idea to run the class meetings in the same style as town hall meetings.

Liz Jacob•The Shakerite

BY SARAH SHAW
OPINION EDITOR

Overwhelming. It is the only word that could possibly define students’ behavior in class meetings. This year, sophomore, junior and senior Student Council members transformed class meetings into town hall meetings. They were an opportunity to gather input from the student body. Student Council envisioned explaining their goals and accomplishments for the year as well as dismissing rumors about them through a question and answer session. That was far from what happened at junior class meeting, which began with tedious interrogations about sweatshirt designs, cardigans, snap backs and tall socks and devolved into an attack on Student Council’s right to exist. Students rudely asked questions regarding the funds that Student Council raises. Others questioned prom costs, the homecoming theme, and of course, asked, “What does student council do anyway?” The questions became increasingly brutal and students took the microphone to voice their many criticisms about Student Council. According to Smith, the council members holding the microphones at the junior class meeting, Pearl Ernat and Christina Harris, asked what each question would be before students were given the microphone. Smith said that when Junior Chris Gyurgyik stood up to ask a question he claimed was about hat designs. Instead Gyurgiyik asked, “Can we pregame?” Alternatively, if a student had a valid suggestion, he was booed until he sat down.

Students seemed oblivious to the fact that their questions and actions were completely inappropriate. Smith rightfully pointed out that students shouldn’t be requesting pep rallies if their current behavior stops them from successfully getting through 50 minutes of a class meeting. In the subsequent sophomore meeting, Vice Principal Eric Hutchinson told the sophomores that the class meeting was the closest thing they would have to a pep rally. The question of having other pep rallies did not come up at any point during the sophomore meeting.

Despite their behavior at the class meeting, Hutchinson had marked the Class of 2013 as the next great Shaker class. He said that the junior class should not be judged by the meeting and they have impressed Hutchinson from day one as freshman. Even as freshmen, the class was spirited and motivated above and beyond other classes. Hutchinson said that the last class to impress him like the Class of 2013 was the Class of 2009.

The juniors implemented town hall style meetings and Student Council Advisor Julia Rossi also said that as of now, the juniors have more money for prom in their bank account than the seniors. All of their efforts have gained respect from Hutchinson and Rossi. Hutchinson said, “We love people who care.” While their class meeting did not reflect well on the class, 2013 Student Council members should be commended for making an effort to involve their peers.

Are you a flower or a weed?

At the sophomore and junior class town hall meetings, Assistant Principal Eric Hutchinson used an analogy comparing students to various flowers. In previous years, Student Council members have been his roses, and disruptive students his weeds. This year, Hutchinson expanded the analogy, saying that the majority of the students were violets or tulips with a few dandelions here and there. After these meetings, you may be wondering which category you fall into. We’ve taken it upon ourselves to interpret Hutch’s language and help you figure out whether you are a flower or a weed.

Question 1

At a class meeting, do you think it’s appropriate to jump on stage and take control of the mic?

YES NO

Question 2

During a class period, is it alright to run and scream in the hallways?

YES NO

Question 3

Would you ever get into a fight on school premises?

YES NO

Question 4

Would you say you give back to your community and are well-rounded?

YES NO

Question 5

Do you plan to graduate high school?

YES NO

How many ‘no’s did you earn? If you tallied greater than three, unfortunately, you are a weed.

CATCHING UP WITH STUDENT COUNCIL

To help inform students about Student Council’s work, a column by Student Body President Michaela Matthews and Heads of Communication Juliet Bellin-Warren and Claire Crosby will appear in this space periodically. Matthews wrote this month’s début.

Over the next few months Student Council will be organizing several school wide fundraisers and functions. Our latest fundraiser is called Kuamba, which is a non-profit organization that helps maintain fresh water in under privileged countries. As a part of our efforts, we will be donating 50 cents from each homecoming ticket purchased to Kuamba. In November we will team up with the Mayfield Heights Student Council to work a service project at a local Soup Kitchen. We will also be working with them on our biggest fundraiser of the year, Adopt-a-Family. The Adopt-a-Family program pairs Student Council with a local family in need and we are then responsible for creating a wonderful holiday season for them. With the money we raise we will purchase gifts on the family’s holiday wish list. Due to the new law restricting bake sales during school lunch periods, we are relying solely on bake sales after school and personal or corporate donations. As such, we have asked Mayfield Student Council to work with us on this project in order to raise the money for this specific family.

Michaela Matthews

For 2011-2012, we would love to see more participation in school spirit days. Our past two spirit days this year, Prep Day and Color Wars, had a great turnout, so let’s keep that going! Spirit days are intended to get people excited about our school and have some fun. In April we have our annual spirit week to look forward to. Full Student Council meetings are held every other Tuesday and are open to all who would like to come in order to better our Council. Please feel free to voice your suggestions to any member of your Class’s Student Council.

Cover Story

GOING ONCE,
ACCEPTA

University offi
students wh

BY ALYSSE EBERHARD, MARISSA MILLER A
RACHEL SHAW
COVER STORY EDITORS

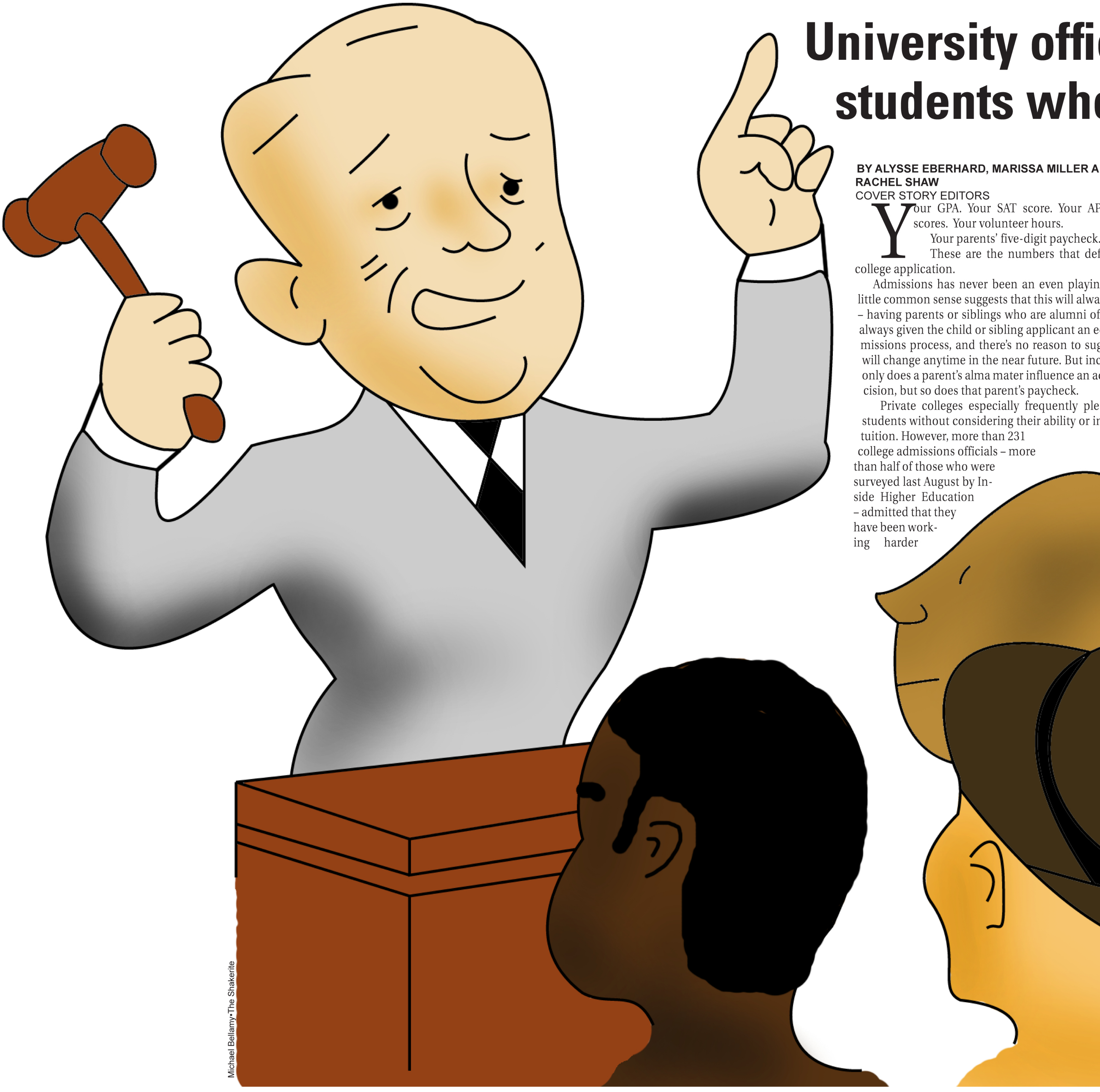
Your GPA. Your SAT score. Your AP
scores. Your volunteer hours.

Your parents' five-digit paycheck.

These are the numbers that def
college application.

Admissions has never been an even playin
little common sense suggests that this will alwa
– having parents or siblings who are alumni of
always given the child or sibling applicant an e
missions process, and there's no reason to sug
will change anytime in the near future. But inc
only does a parent's alma mater influence an ac
cision, but so does that parent's paycheck.

Private colleges especially frequently ple
students without considering their ability or i
tuition. However, more than 231 college admissions officials – more than half of those who were surveyed last August by Inside Higher Education – admitted that they have been working harder



Michael Bellamy•The Shakerite

GOING TWICE . . .
NCE SOLD!

cials admit that in the college admissions auction, ose families can pay full tuition have an advantage

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to recruit affluent students who can pay full tuition. Along with the fact that most state schools do not admit students need-blind, the size of your parents’ paycheck has never been more important to your application.

Shaker has a very diverse population, and students have diverse economic backgrounds. Carolyn Garvin, who coordinates college counselors’ visits and advises students on scholarships, sees the role finances play in college ambitions. “I see families of all financial backgrounds, but no one wants to give up everything to pay,” she said. Garvin said she often speaks with families who thought they were financially prepared to send their child to an expensive college, and are shocked by the overwhelming costs.

Senior Kristen Amaddio applied to a college early decision. “I think that students should feel free to base their college choices on their interests, not income,” she said. Acceptance into a college early decision is a binding contract – an accepted student must withdraw all other applications and commit to that college. However, should the student’s family feel that the financial aid package given by the college is not generous enough, the contract to that college can be cancelled.

All juniors meet with their counselors in the spring to make an initial list of colleges that meet their criteria. Counselors state clearly at the junior class meeting that they typically avoid discussing financial aid during these college conferences.

However, finances did come up during senior Arielle Cronig’s meeting with her counselor. “One of the things we discussed when I made my preliminary college list was one or two safety schools I could afford,” she said. Cronig hoped to apply early decision to a school that is a financial reach, meaning that if she was accepted, she would only attend based on the financial aid package that she received from the college and the merit-based scholarships that she won. However, Cronig said her counselor strongly opposed applying early decision if Cronig would later have to withdraw her acceptance for financial reasons – even though the early decision contract specifically states that it is non-binding if the student feels that he or she cannot afford the college.

“Now I don’t really feel like I have the option to think about it, because [according to my counselor and parents] it’s not a possibility,” she said.

Cost has also played a role in senior Claire Levin’s plans for college. “Financial concern is a huge factor for me in choosing a college. In fact, I have known my whole life that I have to go to an in-state public school because of a locked fund my parents and grandparents put money into throughout my whole life.”

However, if a parent works at a college, their child is typically eligible for free tuition. Levin’s parent works at Cuyahoga Community College. Although Levin will not apply there, she sees value in the community college experience.

“If college were more of a financial burden, I would 100 percent opt for going to Tri-C, because I would be able to attend for free. Even for people who do not have a parent working at Tri-C, community college would be a great way to get general classes out of the way without paying giant tuition,” she said.

About 10 percent of admissions directors in the study said that on average, admitted students who could pay full tuition had lower grades and test scores than other admitted students. Contrarily, 88 percent of the admissions officers said that merit-based scholarships are an appropriate use of resources. Garvin said that students and parents have been looking for scholarship money more frequently in the past few years, and that scholarships are available. She emphasized, “There is the aspect of the follow through. Most [people] start and don’t follow through.”

Senior Catherine Taylor’s father is the Dean of Arts and Sciences at Case Western Reserve University. Taylor stated, “I feel very at home at Case. I spent a lot of time there as a child and a lot of the faculty are my family friends. It feels like an extension of Shaker to me.” She is applying to Case in addition to other, more expensive, colleges. “Cost is definitely a big thing to consider, especially when it’s the difference between $0 and $50,000. . . My parents want me to go to school for free, but they would be willing to pay if it’s really what I want,” she stated.

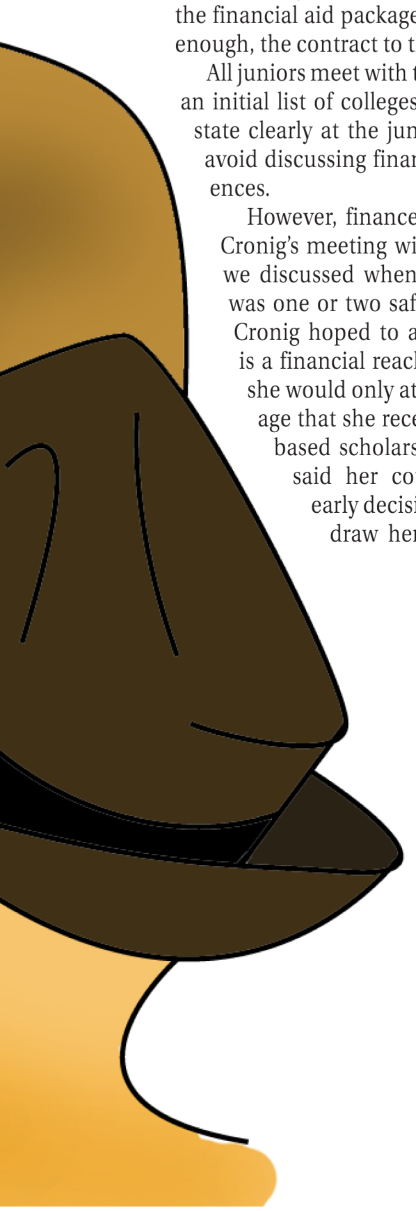
Factors other than merit have always been considered in the admissions process, and minority students, athletes, international students and children of alumni are also often admitted despite lesser credentials, regardless of the state of the economy. Amaddio stated, “I feel that colleges should be need-blind, and base things on the academic strengths of the applicants. However, they may be forced to only accept those students whose families can pay full price.”

Every admissions officers from four-year colleges included in the study cited tuition and affordability as the main concern in a stagnant economy. While community colleges still seek to serve students who are unable to pay tuition, they also hope to attract students who can pay in full in order to be able to help lower-income students.

In a Sept. 21 New York Times article, David Hawkins, director of public policy and research at the National Association for College Admission Counseling, said, “We certainly have standards, but there needs to be awareness that when the economy starts to crumble, the standards may start to go out the window.” Admissions directors from public colleges said that recruiting out-of-state and international students was their main strategy, because these students often pay more to attend the school than in-state students. At community and private colleges however, admissions officers were more likely to focus on providing aid for low- and middle- income students.

Lloyd Thacker, founder of the Education Conservancy, a nonprofit to improve college admission rates, said, “There have always been elements of this behavior, but it seems to me that it’s growing. I don’t know whether to blame in on a hard times or lack of courage and leadership.”

Regardless of the cause, students are forced to accept that there is yet another variable in the college admissions equation, one that they cannot manipulate. Levin said, “I believe that admittance into college should be merit based – the actions of the student should be the only factor in getting into a school. Financial matters should not affect this decision.”



Kristen Amaddio

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Arielle Cronig

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Claire Levin

“Community college would be a great way to get general classes out of the way without paying giant tuition.”

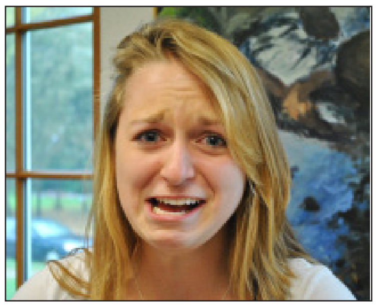
Catherine Taylor

“Cost is definitely a big thing to consider, especially when it’s the difference between $0 and $50,000.”

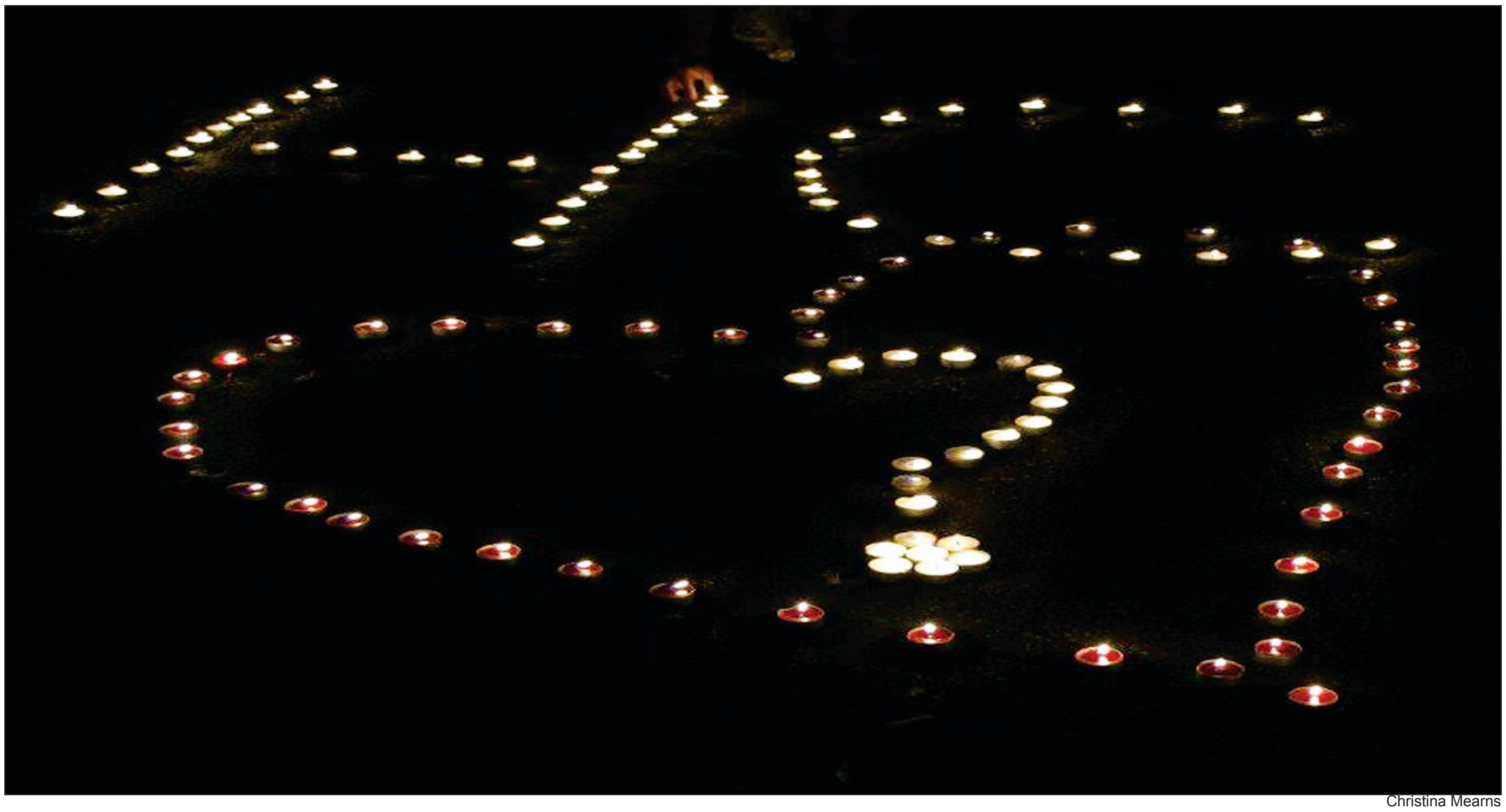
Spotlight

How to deal with dirty dancing

When homecoming fever spreads through the halls, the inevitable concern about grinding arrives. Not every girl wants to dance so closely. But what's a girl to do? Freshman Oliva Webster has a plan similar to the method employed by YouTube personality Jenna Marbles. Webster said, "I just make the ugliest face and stand there until they walk away,"

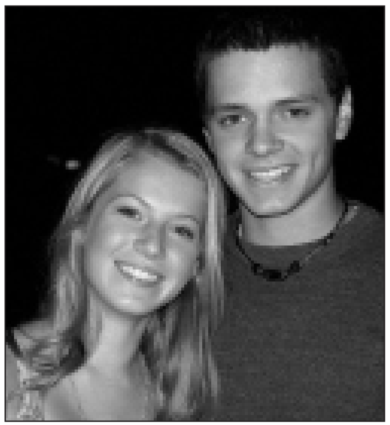


> "I wanted to ask her in a cute, memorable way. And I wanted to set a standard for everyone else."
>
> Mark Lewandowski



Christina Mearns

Senior Mark Lewandowski used the glow of candlelight to ask sophomore Clare Mearns to homecoming. Among his friends, Lewandowski is regarded as the first of the group to have asked a girl to homecoming this year. "I went to Walgreens and saw the candles and I thought it would be cute," Lewandowski said.



Christina Mearns

Battle of the boyfriends

Senior Mark Lewandowski asked sophomore Clare Mearns to Homecoming with candles arranged as "HC?" and a musical accompaniment. Mearns said that although she hadn't wanted to be asked in a public way, she "loved how Mark asked me."

"I was determined to do better," said senior Connor Hall, who asked junior Tia Morrison by spelling out "Homecoming Tia" with paper towels across the football field. Morrison said, "I wouldn't have gone to homecoming with Connor if he didn't ask me in an adorable way." When it comes to prom, the pressure is on. "I've got to come up with something huge," Lewandowski said. "Connor's going down."

BUCKNELL
FOOTBALL

Liz Jacob • The Shakerite

It's so much more than a dance these days

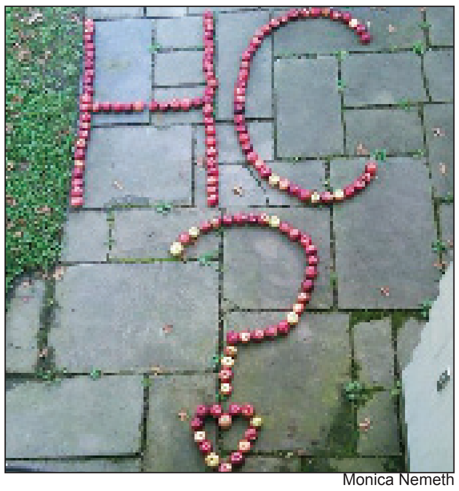
Elaborate, public and 'adorable' ways boys pop the homecoming question abound

BY LIZ JACOB
STAFF REPORTER

The all-important homecoming date. It consumes the school and dominates conversation from the first week of class until the rehashing dies down.

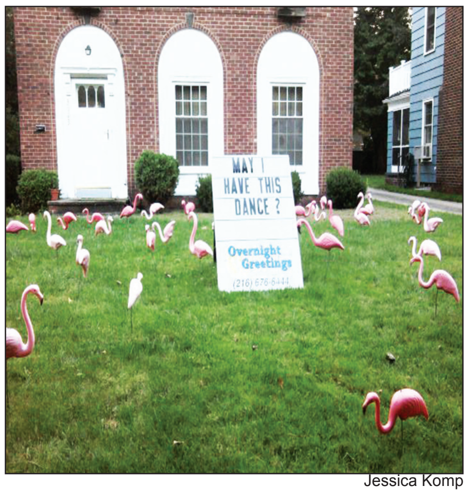
Your outfit, your before- and after-parties and your pictures will make your night, but your date will define your homecoming. Lately, how you are asked is as important as having a date at all. Asking a girl to homecoming has somehow evolved into an event rivaling a marriage proposal. "How did he ask you?" has replaced "Are you going?" The answer will reveal the dedication, creativity and determination of the person with whom you will spend that fairy tale Saturday night in the high school gym. From a yard full of flamingoes, to a football field-sized sign, the more extravagant and publicly you're asked, the happier you are about your date and the more you brag to everyone about it.

While these grand gestures are endearing, what standard do they set for winter formal? Or the epitome of high school social functions, the senior prom? It's no wonder that homecoming proposals have grown increasingly elaborate. With freshman baking notes into cupcakes and sophomores creating messages inside of Popsicle sticks, upperclassmen have to employ a lot of creativity in order to authentically ask someone out.



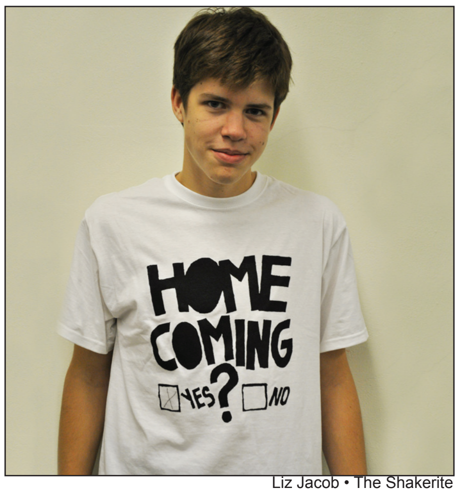
Monica Nemeth

FRESHMAN DAVID CARTER asked sophomore Monica Nemeth to homecoming by inviting her to his house, where he had arranged apples on the ground beneath a window. "His mom was there taking pictures," she said. "I'm happy with the way it went," she said. "It was much more personal" than public proposals.



Jessica Komp

SENIOR ANTHONY JOHNSON asked senior Jessica Komp to homecoming by having a delivery service arrange flamingoes and a sign bearing the question "May I Have This Dance?" on her lawn. The delivery cost $35, but it was worth it for Johnson. Komp said, "There was nothing more I could have wanted."



Liz Jacob • The Shakerite

JUNIOR JACK REESE asked junior Leighah Scully to homecoming with a T-shirt he unveiled during lunch. "I wanted to be asked in an illustrious way," Scully said. "I wasn't influenced by any other idea because I think they were kind of stupid," Reese said.

heard in the halls

“Yeah, I never wear pants.”

“The water outside is wet.”

“She’s got a lot of swag for a fourth grader.”

“If a German invited you to go get hot dogs, would you go?”

“I got an ‘A’ on my last science test! One step closer to a nose piercing!”

“I did so bad on my paper that my teacher didn’t even give me a grade!”

“Who am I gonna dance with at homecoming? I wanna be diverse when I dance.”

COMPILED BY THE SHAKERITE STAFF

Liz Jacob•The Shakerite

STUDENTS WAIT IN long lines in the cafeteria to purchase food with their IDs. The food they buy shows up online at payforit.net, a service that allows parents to load their kids’ IDs with cash and then see how they spend it.

Parents now privy to poor diets

ARI ROSS
STAFF REPORTER

Your Pop-Tarts are no longer private.

If you buy cafeteria food with your ID, you may not know that a software program allows parents and marketers to see what you buy, how much it costs and on which date that you bought it.

In the past few years Shaker has introduced payforit.net, a site that parents can use to load money to their student’s ID for use in buying lunch and paying school fees. But now, payforit.net has introduced a new way to view a student’s recent purchases. A parent can view their child’s purchases from the past 30 days, so they can see how often they buy food through in the cafeteria.

Since the vending machines don’t have a scanning system, payforit.net cannot record these purchases – only what is sold through the lunch lines. The system can also help parents see when to add money to their child’s ID.

Does the thought of parents tracking their obsessive smoothie habit worry students?

Not senior Alissa Poolpol. “There’s nothing bad that they’re selling,” she said of the cafeteria’s offerings. Poolpol said her parents don’t check her purchases.

Senior Matt Goldenberg knows that his mom checks payforit.net to see his purchases, but said that he’s not affected because he tries to eat healthily regardless.

He said his parents check the website every week, but the only consequence has been making him more aware of how much money he is spending.

Freshman Simon Brown said he doesn’t think his parents check that often. But his mother, Ellen Brown, said she does periodically check what Simon eats. She thinks of it as an extension of her control over Simon’s diet, which becomes increasingly difficult to achieve as children go to high school and then college. She also said, however, that knowing what her son eats doesn’t always help.

“Sometimes what you don’t know is a good thing,” Brown said, because finding out seems to launch a frustrating cycle. She finds out he isn’t eating healthily, and he then eats healthily for awhile. But then his old eating habits return. And if Brown packed her son’s lunch, she said that Simon would just trade the healthy stuff for unhealthy stuff, or throw it away without her knowing.

While payforit.net did not return calls seeking comment at this time, their privacy policy states that no personal information entered into their site will be sold or shared. The company site does not state that it will not sell food purchase data. It does state that the data is heavily encrypted and secure, with multiple firewalls and an Intrusion Detection System.

In the long run, students may start to spend less as their parents watch their spending habits. Students may also begin to eat healthier as more parents monitor their children’s eating habits.

The next time you go to buy that second cheeseburger, remember: your parents might be watching.

Quiet yourself and let me focus in class

It may seem surprising, but I don’t need to hear your opinion all the time.

More and more often, I find myself sitting in class, growing more and more tired of listening to intentionally-stupid questions and disrespectful comments. And I’ve decided that waiting for teachers to steer an inattentive class back to the agenda is not a good use of my precious time.

There’s a limit to the disruptions I can tolerate, especially while trying to learn. While most students complain about the school days being too long, I feel the opposite: I only have seven hours to get the most out of my day. And half of that time, it seems nothing intelligent is being added to the class. During discussions, feel free to form and share your own opinion, but while we’re going over macromolecules, please, stop talking.

Erica Seman

Regardless of your attempt to postpone the test date, we will still have a test tomorrow. And your effort to negotiate won’t help me when we take it. And despite how annoying it is, I can handle you talking to your friends in the back corner. But when you decide to ask stupid questions such as, “Can we, like, not have homework, like, ever?” I get upset.

I completely respect those who use class time to ask their teachers relevant questions. But I have no patience for those who just want to hear their own voices. You need to find a way to get your much-desired attention that doesn’t abuse my seven hours.

And while I don’t much appreciate your talking back to the teacher, I really wish you wouldn’t talk back while being scolded. I’ve sat through so many classes during which my teachers tried to stop the stupidity, only to have students overwhelm them once again. The point of the scolding is to get you to stop talking – continuing to talk isn’t going to make it better.

I don’t appreciate seeing my teachers upset, nor do I appreciate wasting valuable class time listening to you having your behavior corrected.

Please, find some self-restraint.

If I wanted to hear your stupid comments, I’d follow you on Twitter.

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Behind the Wheel School of Driving

Ohio University scores top rank in party school list

MY
SCHOOL
PARTIES HARDER THAN
YOUR
SCHOOL

Liz Jacob•The Shakerite

THIS $15 T-SHIRT, available from latearrivalapparel, capitalizes on Ohio University's reputation as a party school. Princeton Review recently ranked OU the top party school in the nation. Last year, 66 Shaker seniors applied to OU.

BY KOURTNEY BURNS
STAFF REPORTER

Sixty-six seniors from the class of 2011 applied to Ohio University last year.

Thanks to the Princeton Review, every one of them now must contend with suspicions that they just want to party.

Although OU has placed in the top five on the list for the last four school years, it ascended to first place this year, bumping the University of Georgia, GA down to second place.

The Princeton Review generates 62 ranking lists annually. According to their website, schools are selected from The Princeton Review's book "The Best 376 Colleges," released every three years. The Princeton Review rates each school by "using school-reported data and/or data from our surveys of students attending the schools." Data compiled by the survey includes admissions selectivity, financial aid, fire safety and a green rating.

The questions used to rank include "How widely is beer/hard liquor/marijuana used at your school?" and "How popular are fraternities/sororities at your school?" Students who take the survey can choose from responses that reflect upon daily study hours, drug and alcohol usage, and role of fraternities and sororities on campus. Schools are then ranked on a top 20 list.

Wesley Lowery ('08) is a senior at OU. As editor in chief of the campus newspaper, The Post, he has covered the university's relationship with the Princeton Review rankings. According to Lowery, students shouldn't let the list influence their decision to apply to or attend OU.

"If you're deciding not to come here because of OU's ranking, it's not the best decision," Lowery said. "The experience here is how you make it. There is more to the school than its ranking."

Lowery said that students who took the survey may have considered the flock of party-goers who migrate to the university's annual Halloween festivities.

Kristopher Terry ('10) is a sophomore dance major at OU. He said that the campus population nearly triples as people from all over the country come to to celebrate. "The school is known for its parties," Terry said. "Alcohol is widely available and almost everyone drinks, and a lot of people smoke marijuana, too. There's probable reason for our rank."

Terry also said the administration sent letters to OU students expressing their disappointment. Lowery said that the administration fights hard not to be associated with these lists.

"There is a general concern from parents and hesitation when it comes to sending their kids here," Lowery said.

This isn't a concern at just OU. "Every school has parties," Terry said.

NATIONAL MERIT NUMBERS SPUR EXTRA TEST PREP

BY JOAN THOMPSON
STAFF REPORTER

After the release of new statistics from the College Board, the administration has increased standardized testing preparation for the junior class.

The College Board recognized 36 members of the Class of 2012 for their performance on the October 2010 PSAT. Ten members of the Class of 2012 achieved National Merit Semifinalist recognition, while 26 more received Commended, National Achievement or National Hispanic honors. Solon led the Cleveland area with 21 Semifinalists and 40 recognized students overall.

According to Principal Michael Griffith, new data from the College Board allowed him to study Shaker's performance more clearly. Griffith cited the online release of SOAS, Summary on Answers and Skills, that summarizes Shaker students' strengths, weaknesses and answer trends on the 2010 PSAT. Through SOAS, Griffith realized that "a bunch of [2012] students [were] sitting on the cusp… [We're] talking about one or two points difference."

Griffith said that the large number of borderline scores motivated Shaker to intensify preparation for the class of 2013. "For me, I look at the 50 kids within five questions [of some recognition], [and] I don't know if the kids had the opportunity or financial wherewithal,"he said.

Griffith expressed concerns that the large price tag attached to a testing service company or private tutoring might discourage formal preparation.

After analyzing Shaker's SOAS data, the administration worked with The Princeton Review to customize an after-school preparation plan specifically based on 2010 PSAT results from the Class of 2013. In addition to the in-class sessions typical of previous years, the Princeton Review held a series of after-school sessions targeted at students who scored 180 or above on the PSAT.

According to Griffith, the administration invited students from advanced math and English classes, MAC Scholars and MAC Sisters and other students who achieved a high 2010 score before opening the sessions to others.

These sessions focused on answering medium- to high-difficulty questions, while the in-school sessions centered on more general questions.

Some juniors are reaping the benefits of the new system. "I'm definitely taking advantage of it," junior Kate Connors said.

Shaker's increased preparation may point to other factors. "With our ratings going way down, we need this. In the newspaper [that publishes school report cards], Shaker's always in the bottom. They need people to be National Merit so people will move here," junior Juliet Bellin-Warren said. "The school is depending on the select group of people who went after school."

Senior National Merit Semifinalist Matt Krantz feels Shaker is also focusing on other districts. "Especially because our numbers have been dropping, I think the counselors have become more intense about Shaker's 'competition,'" Krantz stated, citing Solon as a rival. "That being said, I think our performance has been phenomenal, and we really have nothing to worry about."

Griffith acknowledged that National Merit is a measure of a school's performance. "It's a quality indicator," for both private and public schools, he said. Unlike Newsweek's formulaic rankings, he said, National Merit is an "equal standard of measurement."

For some, increased preparation means increased pressure to score well. "I only feel [pressure] because the school puts so much on it," Bellin-Warren said.

Still, others questioned the effectiveness of both in-school and after-school sessions. "I think if someone is on the 'bubble' for qualifying they're probably a good enough test taker," Krantz stated. "I did homework for other classes throughout most of the [in-school] Princeton Review sessions."

However, Griffith is quick to put National Merit in perspective. "Does it open doors," Griffith asked. "Yes. Does it close doors? I don't believe so."

Return of 1960s Mod movement seen in hallway style

BY ELANA ROSS
STAFF REPORTER

Your skinny jeans are fashionable, but they aren't new.

Nowadays everyone, including guys, own skinny jeans although few people know where they actually came from. Skinny jeans, also called slim pants or drainpipes, were worn with suits during the Mod period of the 1960s.

The Mod movement, coming from the word "modern," was a teenage British subculture after World War II. The war boosted the British economy so teenagers were able to use their money for materialistic items.

Many of your other, everyday clothing items initially came from Mod. Miniskirts were coined by Mary Quant in the mid '60s, although many other designers claimed it was their creation. They quickly became staples for women of all ages.

Many designers started using shorter skirt lengths, including Yves Saint Laurent, who featured cropped lengths in one of his most famous creations -- the Mondrian dress. The dress was an imitation of a painting by Piet Mondrian, a painter whose work emphasized geometric shapes and used vibrant colors.

The Mondrian dress is also a good example of another Mod trend; pop art. Pop art utilized bright colors in graphic designs like zig-zags, polka-dots or stripes, similar to today's color-blocking trend.

One of the most powerful fashion houses to incorporate pop art designs in the '60s was Missoni. The company recently collaborated with Target to produce a limited-edition, low-priced line featuring some of Missoni's famous prints. The entire line sold out in fewer than 24 hours and caused Target's website to crash.

If you missed out on the brief Missoni frenzy, there are still ways to get the mod look without spending an insane amount of money.

Modcloth, an online shop, was created which produces vintage looking items that won't break the bank. Most of the items range between $50 and $100. Shoppers also have a chance to vote on potential items they want to be sold.

Also, Janie Bryant, the award-winning costume designer for the 1960s period TV show "Mad Men," recently developed an inexpensive line for QVC called Mod.

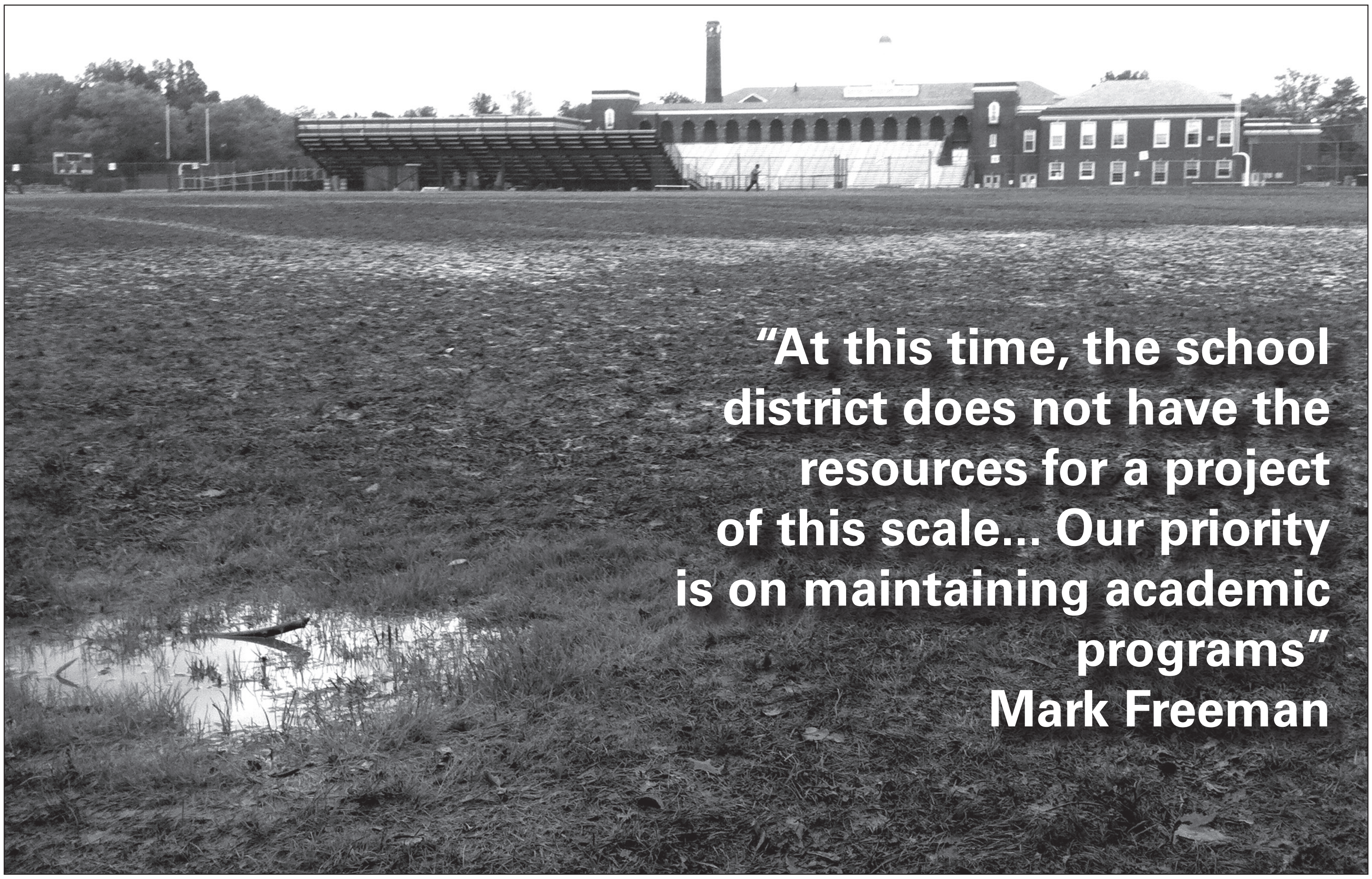
Liz Jacob•The Shakerite

THIS COLOR-BLOCKED dress echoes the Mondrian dress, which used brightly-colored graphics during the Mod period.

NBA postponded until mid-November

NBA Commissioner David Stern cancelled the first two weeks of the regular season Oct. 10 after the players' union and league negotiators could not agree on a labor deal. "We remain very, very far apart on virtually all issues," Stern said. The last work stoppage was in '98-'99 when the season was reduced to 50 games.

FIELD QUESTIONS DOMINATE DISCUSSION



> **"At this time, the school district does not have the resources for a project of this scale... Our priority is on maintaining academic programs"**
> **Mark Freeman**

Marissa Miller•The Shakerite

THE BASEBALL OUTFIELD, where the high school football team practices, has suffered a great deal of wear and tear this fall due to heavy rainfall and use."I'm well aware of the condition of some of our athletic fields. Our grounds crew has been working diligently to keep the fields playable this fall, a task that has been greatly complicated by the heavy rains in September. The athletes and coaches have worked hard to make the best of a difficult situation," Superintendent Mark Freeman stated via email.

Shaker residents pointedly demand commitment from city council, school board nominees

BY KYRA HALL
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

Athletes frustrated by the state of Shaker's playing fields took their concerns to school and city leaders Oct. 10 at the League of Women Voters-sponsored candidate forum at Shaker Middle School, where residents asked questions of school board and city council candidates and stated their opinions on various issues.

Tension increased when Erick Anderson, father of two field hockey players and husband of varsity coach Hilary Anderson, asked city council candidates if they supported installing two artificial turf fields and a new track in Shaker, adding that he would "take anything other than an unqualified yes" as a no. Anderson's question drew an outbreak of applause. Intense cheers also came from field hockey players, who attended the meeting in their uniforms.

Mark Freeman

The candidates all supported this project but agreed that money is the biggest obstacle. Many of the candidates suggested that the funding will most likely have to be done using private means, and that the school district and city will need to fund the future project jointly.

City council nominee Dartanian Warr expressed a very positive attitude on the subject, saying that the project could be done in 18 months. "Shaker has many successful graduates all around the world and they should give back to Shaker," Warr said at the forum.

Earl Williams Jr., another candidate for city council, said that he was unaware of the quality of Shaker's fields until he received "emails that graphically explain the problem."

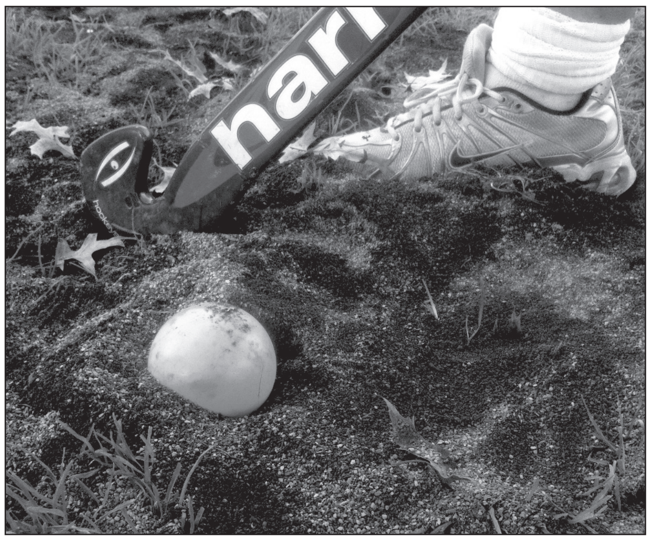
While the city council candidates may have been unaware of the issue, Superintendent Mark Freeman is well aware.

In an e-mail statement, Freeman wrote, "Fitness and athletics are important elements of the educational experience, and we would like to improve our athletic facilities . . . It is possible that artificial turf would reduce maintenance costs, but the initial outlay is in the millions of dollars."

Freeman's statement continued: "At this time, the school district does not have the resources for a project of this scale. The stark reality is that we are losing $8 million in state funds over the next two years. Our priority is on maintaining academic programs."

He also stated that a group of Shaker residents has been working with the Shaker Schools Foundation to raise money for improving athletic facilities. "It is also my hope that money for improvement of athletic facilities can be included in the School District's next capital issue," he stated.

The next city council meeting will occur Oct. 24 at city hall. Coach Anderson urges athletes and band members who use the fields to attend.



Kyra Hall•The Shakerite

JUNIOR GOALIE MAGGIE Butler's foot and field hockey stick sink into the sandy, muddy, cat-litter-enriched field hockey Woodbury field. Its unplayable conditions forced Shaker to rent Hawken's turf field Oct. 1 for a doubleheader against Thomas Worthington and Columbus Bishop Watterson. They lost 3-2 and 6-0.

KEEPING THE LEGACY IN THE FAMILY

John Hall

JUNIOR CENTER MIDFIELDER Kendal Anderson (right) advances the ball at the Oct. 4 match vs. Hudson while her freshman sister, Kasidy, stays close behind a Hudson player.

With athletics in their genes, it’s no surprise that the Anderson sisters excel

BY KYRA HALL
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

Their athletic abilities were no surprise; it runs in the family.

It was inevitable that sports would be significant in the lives of junior Kendal Anderson and freshman Kasidy Anderson. With a father who played in the NFL, a mother who played Division l field hockey for the University of Michigan, and a wealth of athletic prowess among earlier generations, the sisters were destined for sports careers.

Sure enough, Kendal played ice hockey by age 7. But she wasn’t always interested in field hockey.

“Originally I wasn’t planning on playing. However, when I decided to try out in eighth grade, my mom was pleased,” Kendal said. When Kasidy joined the seventh-grade team, the two sisters continued the family tradition of playing field hockey for Shaker.

As daughters of two great athletes, Kendal and Kasidy admit they have felt some pressure to succeed in sports. However they feel that their parents are helping them to obtain athletic scholarships.

Their father, Erick Anderson, said he advises his daughters to think of the long term. “I would give my daughters this advice: train as if you will play forever, but prepare yourself for life after your sport,” he said.

Kasidy said she is in tune with her parents’ guidance. “Their goals are my goals,” she said. “My dad always tells me that I have two choices, school being one of them, but the other is sports or a social life. They always push me in the right direction.”

The girls’ mom, Hilary Anderson, and her sister, Jennifer Clarke, have been the varsity field hockey coaches for the past three seasons. The team finished 8-5-1 this year in the regular season.

Both Hilary and Jennifer played at Shaker, Jennifer for the 1992 team that won a state championship.

Hilary said being both coach and parent presents challenges.

“It’s definitely difficult being the mother of two of my players because I constantly worry about the perception people have,” Hilary said. “I’m fortunate that my daughters are strong players . . . but for the most part, I am harder on them than anyone else.”

According to Hilary, the parental feeling extends to the whole squad.

“Like I tell the team, they’re all my daughters,” she said.

Kendal and Kasidy agree that having family members as coaches can be tough at times. “I find it really hard to take criticism from my mom and aunt because I take it personally,” Kendal explained.

However, there are also advantages to these family ties. Kendal feels that she can understand the player’s insight on certain situations and help the coaches understand what may be going wrong on and off the field.

As the younger sister, Kasidy finds inspiration in the additional pressure of sibling comparisons. “I feel watched, as if other people expect me to be just as good as my sister or better. . . I take it more as encouragement than as pressure,” Kasidy said.

The sisters played on the same field hockey team for the first time this year. Kasidy said she was nervous to see how they would play together. “We both like to be in control and have the ball,” Kasidy said.

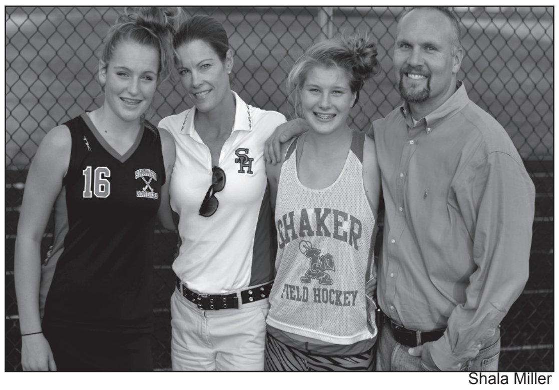
Kendal led the team with 9 goals and 6 assists this season. Kasidy had 4 goals and 6 assists.

The sisters also find the time to play ice hockey, often going to the rink after field hockey practices. Their mom enjoys the competition from the bleachers, rather than calling the shots.

“After coaching, I’m exhausted,” Hilary said. “Sometimes, watching them play hockey is a nice change, but I never really stop coaching . . . there’s always my critique,”

Erick and Hilary both agreed they would have supported their children, whether they chose to play sports or not. Erick said that if sports had not captured his daughters’ devotion, he would have encouraged them to pursue something else that they were passionate about.

Hilary noted that, as long as her daughters have learned the meaning of teamwork, she and her husband are pleased.


Shala Miller

THE ANDERSONS POSE after defeating Magnificat 3-0. From left: Kasidy, Hilary, Kendal and Erick.

Kendal and Kasidy’s Roots

Marian Rey:
1916: suspended for playing basketball with the boys at West High in Lakewood.
Relationship: great-great-great grandmother

Bob Nowaskey:
1940-1942 played in NFL for the Chicago Bears.
1946-1948 played in the NFL for the Los Angeles Dons.
1948-1950 played in the NFL for the Baltimore Colts.
Relationship: great-great grandfather

Don Anderson:
1968 played in the NFL for the New Orleans Saints.
Relationship: great-grandfather

Erick Anderson:
1987-1992 played for University at Michigan.
1991 won the Butkus award.
1992-1994 played in the NFL for the Kansas City Chiefs.
1994-1996 played in the NFL for the Washington Redskins.
Relationship: father

Hilary Anderson:
1985-1988 played field hockey for Shaker
1988-1992 played field hockey for University of Michigan.
Relationship: mother

Kurt Anderson:
1997-2002 played football for the University of Michigan.
2002 played for the Arizona Cardinals.
2006-2007 coached at the University of Michigan.
2008-present coaches at Eastern Michigan University.
Relationship: uncle

Jennifer Clarke:
1988-1992 played field hockey for Shaker
1992 won a state championship
1992-1996 played field hockey for Michigan State University.
Relationship: aunt

KYRA HALL

DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIM

12 years after diagnosis, Gibson thrives on sideline

IAN ROUND
RAIDERZONE EDITOR

"If I hadn't told you, would you have known?" head football coach Jarvis Gibson asked.

You probably wouldn't have known that Gibson has chronic myelogenous leukemia, a cancer of the blood and bone marrow.

And you probably would have thought the pink accessories worn by a few players were a general statement in solidarity with Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

You might not have thought he could do much physical activity, let alone participate in preseason workouts alongside his players.

"I've never missed a workout session," Gibson said. "I told them if I'm here every day with my condition, then they should be here every day."

"One day he came out with a T-shirt and some jogging pants and ended up shutting some people up," senior tailback Kendall Agee said. "He was one of the top performers . . . That really got my attention."

Gibson left coaching for a year when he was diagnosed with leukemia in September 1999, just a year after he began coaching. "Being away from the kids, that almost killed me," said Gibson, who coached at St. Peter Chanel for six years, now-closed Cleveland South for five years (four as head coach), and again at Chanel for two more years as head coach before coming to Shaker. He was originally expected to live for five years after his diagnosis, but medication has helped him defy that prognosis.

"Helping kids is my motivation, and I think that's why I'm still here," he said.

Gibson told his players of his condition at a study session before a preseason workout in January. He told them that if they answered what illness he had correctly, they wouldn't have to run during the workout. "I threw it out as a bonus question," he said, but "they didn't really grasp it at first."

According to Agee, Gibson never shows symptoms at practice. "At practice he's another healthy head coach," adding that Gibson will help by kicking, throwing or running the ball.

"Sometimes we forget he has the illness."

Agee wears a pink mouthpiece, pink socks, wrist tape and gloves. He understands that pink represents breast cancer in particular, but wears it to support all cancer patients because his aunt overcame cancer and a childhood friend passed away from it.

"I wear pink socks just to support [those affected by] cancer, period."

Junior wide receiver and linebacker Deniro Laster started wearing pink Sept. 16 against Bedford. He wears pink to support Gibson and in memory of the same childhood friend Agee honors. Laster wears pink gloves, tape, cleats, Under Armour, and a pink mouthpiece.

Agee said that Gibson sees tape as purely functional, and that it should only be worn if the player needs it to support an injury.

"He didn't let us wear pink tape too early [in the season] because he thought it was about fashion," Agee said.

Although Gibson said leukemia doesn't interfere with his day-to-day activities, he said he often feels fatigued and nauseated.

"I don't let it get me down," he said, adding, "It's an emotional roller coaster."

He doesn't dwell on it, though. "Every time we bring it up he'll make jokes about it to make people not worry about him," Agee said.

Gibson often feels like he is considered unapproachable or unfriendly when he is simply not feeling well.

"A lot of times when I'm quiet or when I have a poker face, my mind is on my illness," he said. "It's a little disheartening when people say I'm not passionate about the kids, or I'm in it for myself. They have no clue what they're talking about."

In addition to coaching, Gibson works full-time at AT&T. To accommodate work and football, he wakes up at 4:30 a.m. to arrive at work at 6. He said he doesn't usually get home until 8 p.m.

Gibson sees a doctor every three months. He doesn't think his leukemia qualifies as remission. "Some say it's remission; I don't say it's remission because I still take medication."

Chanel won the Division V state championship in 2001 with Gibson as co-offensive coordinator. Cleveland South went 31-14 in four years and went to the state playoffs for their first time in 2007 under Gibson. He has taken over a Shaker program that compiled a 3-17 record from 2009 to 2010.

"I have a history of revitalizing bad programs," he said. "I look forward to these challenges."

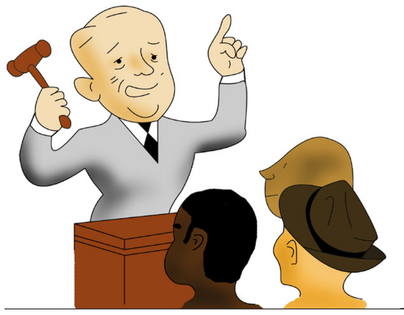
"You would never know unless I told you."
Head football coach Jarvis Gibson

Liz Jacob•The Shakerite

HEAD FOOTBALL COACH Jarvis Gibson signals to another coach at practice Oct. 11. Gibson was diagnosed with chronic myelogenous leukemia in 1999. He was originally expected to live for five years, but is now nearly in remission due to medication. "I don't let it get me down," he said. "I told them if I'm here every day with my condition, then they should be here every day."

Liz Jacob•The Shakerite

SENIOR WIDE RECEIVER Roamelle Bell returns to the line of scrimmage between repetitions at practice Oct. 11. He wears pink gloves and shoelaces to support cancer awareness and his head football coach, Jarvis Gibson.



Does income secure admission?

With the ballooning price tag of college tuition, college admissions officers admit they are favoring those who can pay full price to those who cannot. Is this process eliminating qualified students solely because of their families' financial standing? See pages 8-9 for the story.

COVER ART BY MIKE BELLAMY

Editors' Note

How to read The Shakerite

Reading news online from a variety of sources is easy, but we wonder whether readers notice how a newspaper is structured. As readers move from print to online news sources, it's become clear to us that newspaper literacy is in decline in the high school. This year, we are using this space to explain one aspect of The Shakerite every month to guide readers through the paper.

We often hear our peers complain that they have never been featured in The Shakerite. But full pages are devoted to others in the building, like this page featuring Latin teacher and crossword wiz Robert White. True to its name, Spotlight illuminates interesting individuals, organizations and trends in the high school. Reporters who write for Spotlight can cover anything from a senior project to Hollywood films shot in Shaker to the cut of students' jeans. This month, Spotlight resurrects one of The Shakerite's most beloved features: Heard in the Halls.

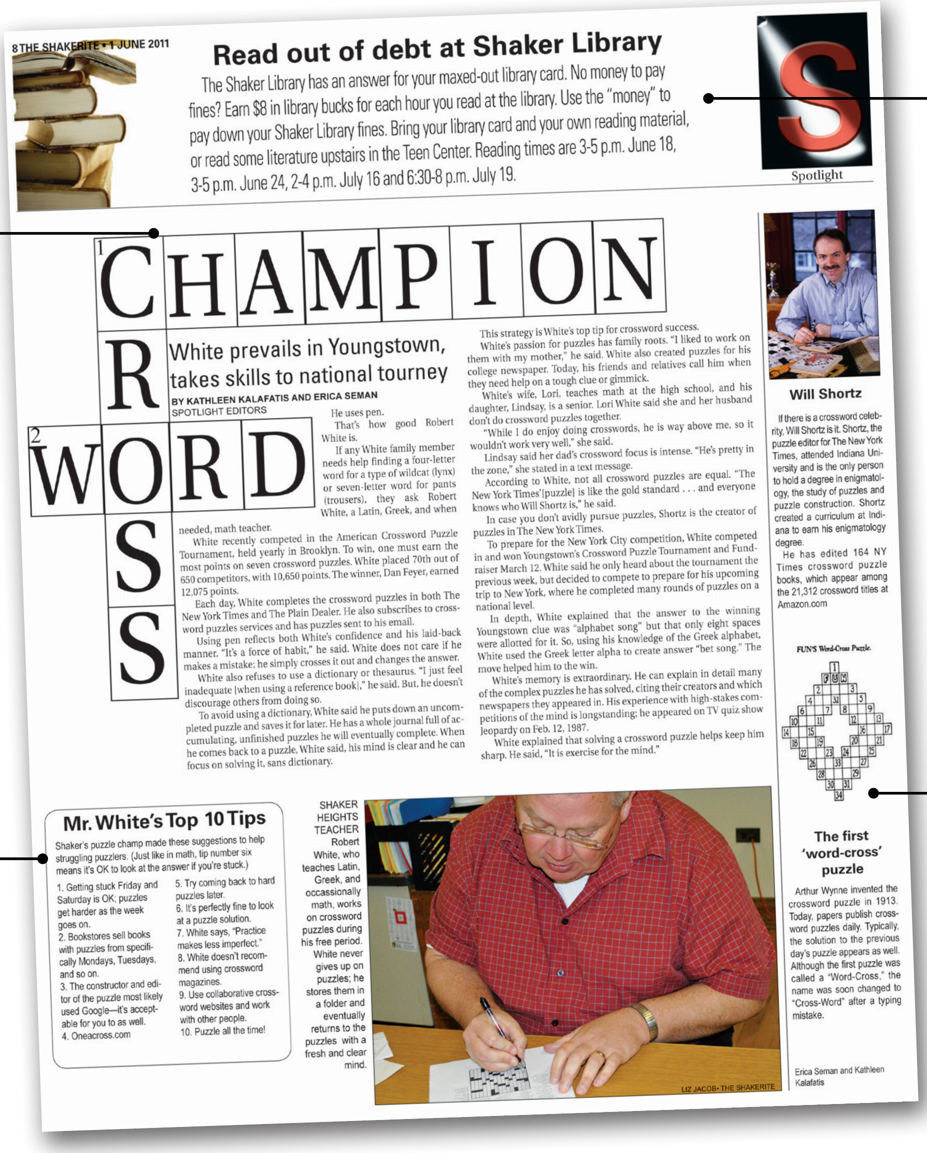
By Graham Fine and Ilana Kramer

Feature

Last month in Editors' Note, we explained the characteristics of the Opinion Section. Spotlight is a feature section devoted to covering individuals and putting them in the spotlight. This section typically covers interesting people, organizations or trends evident in the high school. Spotlight has reviewed theater productions, profiled individuals who stand out, reported about artistic competitions and revealed new types of music created by Shaker students. In this case, White is featured for his devotion to crossword puzzles and his success in crossword competitions. Each issue, this section also includes a column written by one of the editors and offering her perspective on a timely subject.

Package Page

The page displayed here is a package page, which examines a single subject with a variety of story forms and a unified design. In addition to a primary story, package pages often include chunks of interesting or amusing information presented in an easy-to-read format. In this case, a top 10 list delivered Bob White's tips for readers interested in crossword puzzles. Other subjects of top 10 lists in the past have included a playlist of an artist's favorite 10 songs or top 10 excuses for being late to class.



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Read out of debt at Shaker Library

The Shaker Library has an answer for your maxed-out library card. No money to pay fines? Earn $8 in library bucks for each hour you read at the library. Use the "money" to pay down your Shaker Library fines. Bring your library card and your own reading material, or read some literature upstairs in the Teen Center. Reading times are 3-5 p.m. June 18, 3-5 p.m. June 24, 2-4 p.m. July 16 and 6:30-8 p.m. July 19.

Spotlight

1 CHAMPION CROSS 2 WORD

White prevails in Youngstown, takes skills to national tourney

BY KATHLEEN KALAFATIS AND ERICA SEMAN
SPOTLIGHT EDITORS

He uses pen.

That's how good Robert White is.

If any White family member needs help finding a four-letter word for a type of wildcat (lynx) or seven-letter word for pants (trousers), they ask Robert White, a Latin, Greek, and when needed, math teacher.

White recently competed in the American Crossword Puzzle Tournament, held yearly in Brooklyn. To win, one must earn the most points on seven crossword puzzles. White placed 70th out of 650 competitors, with 10,650 points. The winner, Dan Feyer, earned 12,075 points.

Each day, White completes the crossword puzzles in both The New York Times and The Plain Dealer. He also subscribes to crossword puzzles services and has puzzles sent to his email.

Using pen reflects both White's confidence and his laid-back manner. "It's a force of habit," he said. White does not care if he makes a mistake; he simply crosses it out and changes the answer.

White also refuses to use a dictionary or thesaurus. "I just feel inadequate [when using a reference book]," he said. But, he doesn't discourage others from doing so.

To avoid using a dictionary, White said he puts down an uncompleted puzzle and saves it for later. He has a whole journal full of accumulating, unfinished puzzles he will eventually complete. When he comes back to a puzzle, White said, his mind is clear and he can focus on solving it, sans dictionary.

This strategy is White's top tip for crossword success.

White's passion for puzzles has family roots. "I liked to work on them with my mother," he said. White also created puzzles for his college newspaper. Today, his friends and relatives call him when they need help on a tough clue or gimmick.

White's wife, Lori, teaches math at the high school, and his daughter, Lindsay, is a senior. Lori White said she and her husband don't do crossword puzzles together.

"While I do enjoy doing crosswords, he is way above me, so it wouldn't work very well," she said.

Lindsay said her dad's crossword focus is intense. "He's pretty in the zone," she stated in a text message.

According to White, not all crossword puzzles are equal. "The New York Times'[puzzle] is like the gold standard . . . and everyone knows who Will Shortz is," he said.

In case you don't avidly pursue puzzles, Shortz is the creator of puzzles in The New York Times.

To prepare for the New York City competition, White competed in and won Youngstown's Crossword Puzzle Tournament and Fundraiser March 12. White said he only heard about the tournament the previous week, but decided to compete to prepare for his upcoming trip to New York, where he completed many rounds of puzzles on a national level.

In depth, White explained that the answer to the winning Youngstown clue was "alphabet song" but that only eight spaces were allotted for it. So, using his knowledge of the Greek alphabet, White used the Greek letter alpha to create answer "bet song." The move helped him to the win.

White's memory is extraordinary. He can explain in detail many of the complex puzzles he has solved, citing their creators and which newspapers they appeared in. His experience with high-stakes competitions of the mind is longstanding; he appeared on TV quiz show Jeopardy on Feb. 12, 1987.

White explained that solving a crossword puzzle helps keep him sharp. He said, "It is exercise for the mind."

Will Shortz

If there is a crossword celebrity, Will Shortz is it. Shortz, the puzzle editor for The New York Times, attended Indiana University and is the only person to hold a degree in enigmatology, the study of puzzles and puzzle construction. Shortz created a curriculum at Indiana to earn his enigmatology degree.

He has edited 164 NY Times crossword puzzle books, which appear among the 21,312 crossword titles at Amazon.com

FUN'S Word-Cross Puzzle.

The first 'word-cross' puzzle

Arthur Wynne invented the crossword puzzle in 1913. Today, papers publish crossword puzzles daily. Typically, the solution to the previous day's puzzle appears as well. Although the first puzzle was called a "Word-Cross," the name was soon changed to "Cross-Word" after a typing mistake.

Erica Seman and Kathleen Kalafatis

Mr. White's Top 10 Tips

Shaker's puzzle champ made these suggestions to help struggling puzzlers. (Just like in math, tip number six means it's OK to look at the answer if you're stuck.)

1. Getting stuck Friday and Saturday is OK; puzzles get harder as the week goes on.
2. Bookstores sell books with puzzles from specifically Mondays, Tuesdays, and so on.
3. The constructor and editor of the puzzle most likely used Google—it's acceptable for you to as well.
4. Oneacross.com
5. Try coming back to hard puzzles later.
6. It's perfectly fine to look at a puzzle solution.
7. White says, "Practice makes less imperfect."
8. White doesn't recommend using crossword magazines.
9. Use collaborative crossword websites and work with other people.
10. Puzzle all the time!

SHAKER HEIGHTS TEACHER Robert White, who teaches Latin, Greek, and occassionally math, works on crossword puzzles during his free period. White never gives up on puzzles; he stores them in a folder and eventually returns to the puzzles with a fresh and clear mind.

LIZ JACOB• THE SHAKERITE

Skybox

The first page of the Spotlight section, like all sections of the newspaper, features a skybox – a small area at the top of the page reserved for a story and photo. Skybox stories are 40 – 50 words long and are an example of "chunking, "a growing trend in newspaper design that emphasizes smaller chunks of information rather than lengthy stories. The line across the bottom of the skybox, known as a cut-off rule, divides the skybox from other stories on that page. Sometimes, editors use skyboxes as teasers or promos that send readers to another story within the paper or to an online source. With the addition of an online version of The Shakerite, skyboxes will soon refer readers to the news site for deeper coverage.

Sidebar

A sidebar is another way to chunk information that will accompany a story. Sidebars are commonly used to highlight quick facts that invite readers into the package. This sidebar includes the history behind the crossword puzzle and a brief story about The New York Times puzzle editor Will Shortz. Other sidebars may include statistics, quizzes or FAQs.

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